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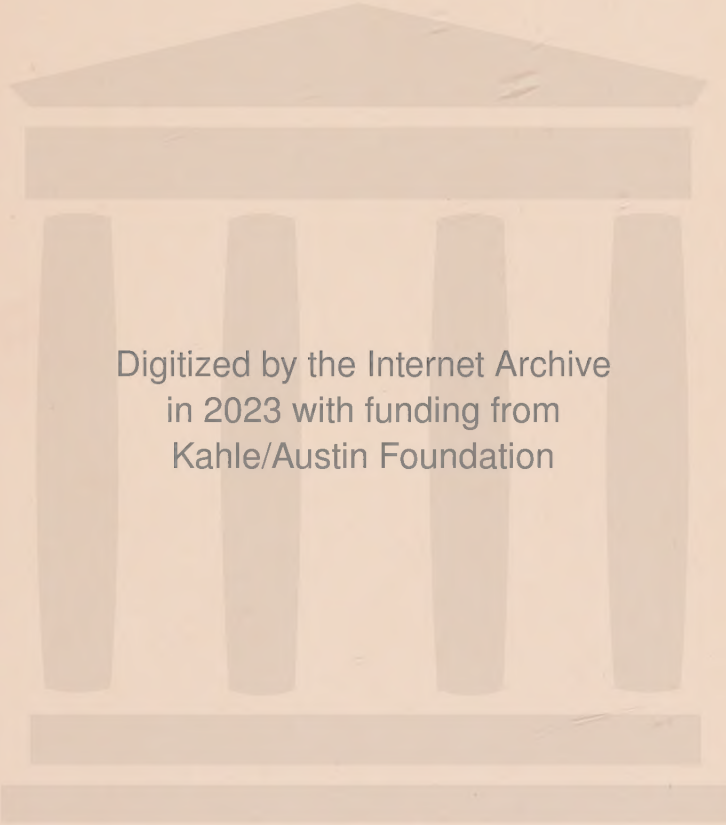


ELM. S. 1799
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PEABODY MUSEUM
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A ship of the period of Peleg Sanford's letters.
The English ensigns of the Tudor and Stuart
periods were often striped red and white.

From Dudley's "Arcano del Mare"

THE
LETTER BOOK
of
PELEG SANFORD
of *Newport Merchant*
(later GOVERNOUR of *Rhode Island*)
1666-1668

TRANSCRIBED from the original manuscript in the *Massachusetts Archives* by HOWARD W. PRESTON, with an introduction and notes by HOWARD M. CHAPIN, and additional notes by G. ANDREWS MORIARTY, JR.



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MCMXXVIII

Printed for the
RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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1046.1
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The Society of Colonial Wars in the State of Rhode Island at its December Court 1924 appointed Norman Morrison Isham, William Davis Miller, and Howard Willis Preston a special committee to secure material concerning King Philips War in Rhode Island for publication on the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Great Swamp Fight. It was while searching in the Massachusetts Archives for unpublished documents that the ever helpful archivist, Mr. John H. Edmonds, remarked "I have a volume here that may be of interest to you as it comes from your part of the Country."

He laid a volume on the table and opened to a letter dated "Newport the 26th 1666." It dealt with the shipment of horses from Narragansett to Barbados and the troubles of a Newport trader.

Here was unexpected light on early Rhode Island commerce with the West Indies.

King Philips War was forgotten as the committee eagerly and painfully deciphered these letters of a seventeenth century Rhode Island merchant whose correspondence shows his multifarious interests, his varied merchandise, and his increasing business difficulties which finally landed him in Boston jail. These troubles were only temporary however, and Peleg Sanford's later successful career as General Treasurer and Governor of the Colony of Rhode Island is well known to all readers of Rhode Island History.

As these letters were not suitable for the purposes of the committee they have been handed to the Rhode Island Historical Society for publication.

H. W. P.

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INTRODUCTION

The Peleg Sanford letter book is a particularly interesting historical document, and throws much light on the early commercial history of the colony. There is an abundance of material, both in print and in manuscript collections, for the study of the eighteenth century commercial history of New England, but commercial papers and letters relating to the seventeenth century are extraordinarily scarce. The period is an especially interesting one, for in it many of our great industries had their small beginnings.

Many eighteenth century letter books are extant, but a seventeenth century New England letter book is a *rara avis*, and though it might well be highly prized on account of its rarity, its greater value lies in the fact that it throws a rather continuous light upon the dealings of a commercial house. For the most part, the data for the commercial history of the first century of our colony is of a most fragmentary sort; a note here and there in the letters of Roger Williams, in the Journal of Governor Winthrop, and in the town and colony records. Occasional items may be found in the few scattered letters of the early settlers of Newport, and the court records and ship protests contribute fascinating, but inadequate information, tantalizing on account of the suggestions which are contained therein, but which cannot be confirmed for lack of additional data.

The Aspinwall Notarial Records, a collection of legal papers relating largely to New England commerce, cover the years 1644 to 1651. These records, which belonged to William Aspinwall, one of the early settlers of Rhode Island, but during this period a resident of Boston, were printed by the City of Boston, and in a sense might be considered to serve as a sort of prelude to this volume.

Peleg Sanford was a native Rhode Islander, born at Ports-

mouth, R. I., on May 10, 1639. He was the son of John Sanford¹ and his second wife, Bridget Hutchinson, daughter of William² and the famous Anne Hutchinson. Bridget was named for her grandmother, Bridget Dryden, sister of Sir Erasmus Dryden, and aunt of the poet, John Dryden.

Peleg Sanford had two half-brothers, John and Samuel, the children of his father's first marriage; and eight own brothers and sisters, Eliphal³, Endcome, Restcome, William, Esbon, Francis, Elisha and Ann. Restcome and Endcome were popular as well as unusual names, and we find them recurring in the next generation. Peleg's sister, Eliphal, married Bartholomew Stratton of Boston, and references to him will be found in many of the letters.

John Sanford, the father, died in 1653, and Peleg's mother soon married again, becoming the third wife of Major William Phillips of Saco and Boston. By this marriage she had at least three children, John, Samuel and William, who were, of course, half-brothers of Peleg Sanford.

Peleg Sanford, when a young man of about twenty-four, went to Barbados, where he lived for a large part of the years 1663 and 1664, and engaged in business there. His brothers, William and Elisha⁴ later resided there and engaged in trade.

Peleg returned to Newport, where his elder brother, John, held various important political offices, such as General Treasurer, General Recorder, and Attorney General. On May 2, 1666, Peleg Sanford was admitted a freeman of the colony, and

¹The Sanford Genealogy states that John was the son of Samuel of Alford, but this has been disproved by Mr. Moriarty, who writes: "I have examined the Lincolnshire records and can find no trace of a John Sanford in the family of Samuel and Eleanor Sanford of Alford. As one of the Winthrops, writing to Gov. John, wishes to be commended to John Sanford, it is probable that he was an East Anglian and belonged to the Essex family of Sanford. He was cannoneer of the Boston fort, so it is probable that prior to coming to New England, he had been a soldier with the English armies in the Low Countries." G. A. M.

²Erroneously given by Austin, but correctly in the Sanford Genealogy.

³The Sanford Genealogy gives Eliphal as a child of the first marriage, but this seems to be contradicted by Bridget's will, and by the will of Henry Webb.

⁴Letter in M.H.S., Winthrop Papers, XVIII:23.

the next year was elected a member of the Governor's Council, and was appointed captain of a troop of cavalry. He engaged in trade, importing sugar, molasses, rum and cotton from Barbados, and dry goods and hardware from England, which he sold apparently at retail in Newport. With the proceeds, he would buy horses and provisions (pork, beef, pease, butter, etc.), and ship them to Barbados. Often he would pay for the goods bought in London by shipping sugar direct to London from Barbados, in which case the sugar would be charged against his shipment of horses and provisions to Barbados. Sometimes apparently he and his brothers went shares in a sort of loose partnership, and sometimes merely acted as the other's agent. Occasionally these transactions involved large sums of money, and costly litigation, and in one case at least ended in imprisonment.

Peleg's residence in Barbados and sojourn in the Boston gaol are for the first time made known through the publication of these letters, as also the early triangular trade between Newport, Barbados and London, although as a rule the London shipments were shipped to Boston and reshipped from that port on coasters for Newport.

Peleg Sanford had close business relations with his Hutchinson relatives in Boston, his uncle Samuel Hutchinson, his uncle Edward Hutchinson and his uncle Thomas Savage (the husband of Faith Hutchinson), being often mentioned in these letters, as well as his cousins, Elisha and Eliakim Hutchinson. The references in these letters correct the error made by Austin in regard to Bridget Hutchinson's ancestry.

It will be noted that in these letters Peleg uses the word cousin in its modern sense, not in its earlier sense of "nephew."

After his return from Boston, Peleg Sanford prospered in business and politics, and during King Philip's War, assisted in the capture of that famous sachem. He became General Treasurer of the colony in 1678, Major in 1679, and Governor of the colony in 1680, holding that office for three years. He became Lieutenant Colonel in 1687, and served as a member of Governor Andros' Council.

He married first Mary, daughter of Governor William Brenton, by whom he had several children, who died before their mother. He married secondly on December 1, 1674, Mary, the daughter of Governor William Coddington, by whom he had seven children: Ann, Bridget, Elizabeth, Peleg, William, and a son and a daughter whose names are not now known. The information in regard to Governor Sanford's children is based on a statement made by his sister-in-law, Ann Willett, in 1740, and differs from the account in the Sanford genealogy.

Peleg Sanford became Judge of the Court of Admiralty in 1698, and died in 1701.

The script letters "th," which in seventeenth century handwriting often resemble the letter "y," have been transcribed and printed "th" as the writer intended them and as seventeenth century printers printed them. This "y" form was pronounced like "th," and was not identical in pronunciation or form with the second person plural of the personal pronoun, which it might seem to resemble in carelessly written script.

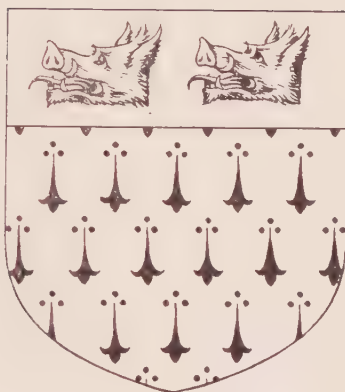
The same rule has been followed in the case of the letters "u" and "v." The seventeenth century script "u" often closely resembles the modern script "v," and the seventeenth century script "v" likewise often closely resembles the modern script "u." The old script double "f," which was really the script capital "F," has been printed as a capital.

The script abbreviation, which represents "pr" with a vowel, and which has no counterpart in modern type, has been printed with the obvious vowel supplied. Superior letters have been normalized as in modern abbreviations, and the line above a letter, which signified an abbreviation, and which was not consistently used in this manuscript, has been omitted. All other abbreviations and unusual spellings have been retained.

Brackets indicate that the words inclosed within them do not appear in the original text, but are supplied by the transcriber.

A number of valuable notes have been supplied by Mr. G. A. Moriarty, Jr.

H. M. C.



The Sanford Coat of Arms from the seal used by Peleg Sanford on the letter dated August 12, 1699. The arms of the Sandfords of Northumberland are given as: *Ermine, on a chief gules, two boar's heads coupéd or.*

THE LETTER BOOK

1

[8]

Newport May the 29th 1666

Honrd Unckle Mr Samuel Hutchinson

Sr Yors of the 11th of this Instant I Receved, and am Sorry yo have not yeet Receved any Returne from Barbodos, the Horses ⁽¹⁾ theather Sent on yor acct weare Number Five, which weare Sent as Followeth in August last past by Ketch ⁽²⁾ Martha Henry Beers ⁽³⁾ Comanr according unto yor ordr Remitted three horses all wch arrived Safe to Barbados: and yealed as per advice from my Brothr Wm Sanford, two thousand hundred of Suger per head Since which I Rec from tho: Cornell ⁽⁴⁾ two horses on yor accot which Sent in the same vessel above named on the fifth of March Last one of wch two per advice from my Brother Sanford did on the 31 of March (died by the

¹The exportation of horses from Rhode Island probably antedated the development of the famous "Narragansett pacers." Cf. Deane Phillips' "Horse Raising in Colonial New England," *Corn. Univ. Agri. Exp. Stat. Memoir* 54, p. 922 et als. William Coddington undertook to export horses from Rhode Island to Barbados as early as 1656, (*R. I. C. R.* I:338). Weeden's "*Soc. and Econ. Hist. of N. E.*" (p. 160) tells us that horses were used in the sugar-cane-crushing mills of Barbados. Sanford, in a letter dated Dec. 28, 1668, refers to the "paces" of his horse.

²A ketch is a two-masted vessel with the mainmast stepped about amidships and with a smaller mast near the stern. In the eighteenth century the ketch carried square sails as well as fore and aft sails, but there is reason to believe that in the seventeenth century the ketch carried only lateen sails, and that the term referred rather to the size of the vessel and the absence of square sails, than to the arrangement of the masts. The ketch was a popular commercial vessel in colonial days. Cf. *Lexicon Technicum* by John Harris, London 1725.

³Henry Beere of Newport was a mariner, as were his two sons and his brother. He married Patience Scott, whose mother, Catherine Marbury Scott, was sister of the famous Anne Hutchinson, so Mrs. Beere was own cousin of Bridget Sanford, Peleg Sanford's mother. Cf. *Austin's Gen. Dict. of R. I.*

⁴Thomas Cornell of Portsmouth was a member of the General Assembly in 1672. He was convicted of murdering his mother, and was executed on May 23, 1673. The conviction was based on a dream related by John Briggs, Mrs. Cornell's brother, and no legal evidence of Cornell's guilt was presented. Cf. *Cornell Genealogy*.

[7]

way) Sr in Respect of the Extremitie of the winter I could not gitt your horses from Narragansett, but intend if yor pleasure Soe be to Send for them as Soon as the Ketch arrives which wee dayly Expect, Sr the mare in the hands of my Brothr Jno Sanford in Respect to Her poverty was not fitt to transport, Sr as for what is due unto yo for the Rent of the Farme, I have not as yeet Receved one peny of, and Judg ye will not Exspect from me, before I receive it, I have not beene Negligent in Indeivering to procuere it, Sr I have Spoken often times unto Bartho Weest ⁽⁵⁾ for tht he owes you but Cannot gett any pay of him Exsept in a mare or horse kind, wch I will not Receave without yor ordr Sr I have not Ellce at present Save due Respects unto yor Self and Remaine yor Ever Loveing Kinsman.

To Mr Samuell Hutchinson

Boston these present per Zach: Phillips ⁽⁶⁾

2

Newport May the 29 1666

Loveing Coazen after due Respects premised, these are to desiare that if any Shipping arives from London, and tht the prices of Sugr should arise to 20s or 22s per hundred tht you would Sell Sume of myne tht lyes in yor storehouses Sr I have thoughts to be at Boston Suddainly god permitting. Cozen I would Earnestly desire that by the first opertunity you would Send me two dozen of good Halters let two of them be long and Strong Halters: for to take young horses, I pray be mindfull of me in this particuler not knowing how to Shipp of any horses for want thereof: this is all the truble at present from yor assured

Loveing Kinsman

P. S

To mr Elisha Hutchinson

Mrchtt in Boston these

present per Zach phillips

⁵Bartholomew West of Portsmouth was one of the original purchasers of Monmouth, N. J. Cf. Austin.

⁶Zachariah Phillips of Boston. He was killed by the Indians on August 2, 1675. Cf. Savage's Gen. Dict. of N. E.

Newport June the 20th 1666

Loveing Coz: Sr I have Layden on Board of Antho Low ⁽⁷⁾ his Slopp Seaventy Foure Ends of Iron 9 li: 31s. 2d: the which I would desiere yo to make Sayle of for my Beest advantage: if you may Sayle for mony please to pay it Mr Usher ⁽⁸⁾ Junr: Sr by advice from London Sugr is at 3li per hundred: Sr yesterday I mett wth Maher Dyre ⁽⁹⁾ I have Seazed the Sloope: by my Cozen Savages Letter he advices me tht you are Concerned in it as well as he: I desiere yor advice as allso w/ith/ my Cozen Attorney about it, that if Soe tht yo are desierous to have her for Boston: that you Both Sent me an ordr undr yor hands and Se/a/l's to beare me harmles for Soe doing (the Serjant Exspects the like from me) She is now trimed and Fitted for imploy: but if lett her ley till our cort of tryalls ⁽¹⁰⁾ which will be till last End of octor I feare she will be much out of Repaire and alsoe Chariable to Looke unto; I desiere the knowledg of yor minds in it, as allso an aswr unto my Formr Lettr wch is all at present from yor assured Loveing kinsman
To mr Elish Hutchinson
Mrchant in Boston these
present per Antho Low

Newport June the 20th 1666

Honr Uncle Mr Sam Hutchinson Sr I have by Antho: Low Sent you yo/u/r part of wooll ⁽¹¹⁾ that Came from Brothr Sam Sanfords being in Number 10: Fleces Sr as for what Stocke yo have Remaining /in/ his hands is as Followeth: 20

⁷Anthony Low bought a house in Warwick, R. I., in 1666. During King Philip's War, Capt. Benjamin Church went to Newport on Anthony Low's vessel. In 1692 Low's sloop was called the *Dolphin*. Cf. Austin.

⁸Hezekiah Usher, Junior, of Boston.

⁹Mahershallalhashbaz Dyer, son of William and Mary Dyer. His mother was the Quaker martyr. He had a tobacco house at Newport. Cf. Austin.

¹⁰There is no mention of this case in the record of the Court for October 1666.

¹¹Sheep-raising and wool exporting were important Rhode Island industries. Jamestown adopted a sheep as the arms of the town.

ould Ewes ⁽¹²⁾ whearof Five are dry two yearleinge Weathrs ⁽¹³⁾
 one ould Rame Five this yeare Ewe Lames thre this year
 weathr Lames one Rame lame one weathr Lame undevided Sr
 I spake wth Clement Weaver ⁽¹⁴⁾ Concerning the wooll his answr
 is that you had yor part of the wooll Sent downe on the sheepe
 by one Johnson: he Saith he hath about ascoare of yor sheep in
 his hands but will keep them Noe longer then the Fall: Sr when
 I last Spake wth my Brothr Jno he had not Shorne the sheepe
 Sr yor Answer to my Formr lettr Concerning Brotho ⁽¹⁵⁾ Weest
 is by the first oppertunity desiered Sr I have not Fardr to truble
 yo but shall Remaine yor Kinsman

Ever to Comand his uttermost powr

5

[10]

Newport June the 27th 1666

Loveing Brothr yors by Jno Beare ⁽¹⁶⁾ I Recd: I am Joyfull to
 heare of your and Brothr Elisha Recovery: the Lord hath Beene
 pleased to Vissett Sistr Streton and two of her Children: and
 Brother Ezbon with the Same distempr but through his mercy
 theare are all Finly Recordd Brothr Henry Beare is not yeet
 arived which causes great Feares of his welfare if it please god
 that he arives in Safty: yo may Exspect to have him Returne
 unto yo wth horses: Jno Beare is discouradged in Respect of the
 dangerfulness of the times and So fare as I Cann understand
 intends to lay up his vessell Brothr I would desiere in Respects
 of the dangr tht now is: that yo would Send me Sume thing in
 Every vessell that is Bound for this place: but not much in one
 vessell: we are in dayly Exspection of the Enimy: ⁽¹⁷⁾ this at
 present is all with kind Love unto you and Brothr Elisha I
 Remaine yor Ever Loveing Brothr

¹²A·ewe is a female sheep.

¹³A castrated ram, noted for soft wool. Chaucer wrote "and softer than the wolle is of a wether" (Miller's Tale 1:63).

¹⁴Sergeant Clement Weaver of Newport. Cf. Austin.

¹⁵Brotho West, abbreviation for Bartholomew West. See note 5.

¹⁶John Beere, brother of Henry. He died at sea, July 29, 1671. Cf. Austin.

¹⁷England and Holland were at war.

my mothr is in Boston in good health and so is all our friends
Brother Since I began to write my Mothr is Come to the
Island ⁽¹⁸⁾ and informes me tht monys due from Capt Savage ⁽¹⁹⁾
unto yor Self and she is very Earnest to have me Receive it into
my hands for yo which I thinke /to/ doe when I goe to Boston
and therfore desiere yor ordr how yo will dispose thereof I judg
it may doe well to be layd out /in/ Stocke to put upon yor land
(part there of I meane but what yor ordr is shall Indevere to
Comply with: Brothr Restcom hath had the Small poxe but it
is now pretty well. I am yor Loveing Brothr

6

Newport June the 27th 1666

Loveing Cozen

Sr of the 19th Instant I Recd /yours/ and doe hartely Returne
you thanks for your Intilligence about the Ketch: yor wth the
Inclosed papers fro[m] of the Sicke Horse I Recd which I
formerly gave yo advice of but Judg the letter mis carried: Sr
the Iron Sent per mr Lowe ⁽²⁰⁾ would desiere yo to make Sayle
of and by first opertunity to Send me half a dozen Siths: ⁽²¹⁾
two or 3 ps [pieces] of Lockerum ⁽²²⁾ if possibly you Cann: I
would allsoe Earnestly desiere that you would by for my wife 6
yards of Fine Holland it is for especiall uses I suppose you are
allredy acquainted wth the Case of it, I Judg it may be for the
use of her Little one thearfore Need not urge yor Care about it:
if you Send me an accot of what it Comes to shall send yo mony
by my mothr for it: also five thousand of pins ½ doz of Silk
lanes: Sume fine threed to Suite the Holland and one pc or two
of tape. Sr if a market present I would desiere yo to make

¹⁸Rhode Island.

¹⁹Capt. Thomas Savage, one of the first settlers of Portsmouth. He married Faith Hutchinson, sister of Peleg Sanford's mother. Captain Savage soon returned to Boston, where he became very prominent as a merchant and military man. He became Captain of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston (Cf. N. E. H. G. Reg. vol. 67, pp. 198-200). G. A. M.

²⁰Anthony Low.

²¹Scythes.

²²Lockram, a cheap and coarse sort of linen.

Sayle of the Cotten wooll yo Recd from D. Burr: ⁽²³⁾ this at present is all with my and my wifes Love to you and yors Sweet wife

I Remaine yor Loveing Kinsman
I Judg the advice of women may not be amise in the byeing of the Holland
To mr Elisha Hutchinson mrchtt
in Boston per mr Rich Bayley ⁽²⁴⁾

7

[11] Newport June the 28 1666
Respected Gentlemen:

I have heare inclosed you the accotts of the Ketch Content: and allsoe the Receits of what Debts mr talboy left in the hands of Joseph Holdsworth on the Companys accott Indending to have Been at Boston before this is the Reason you had not the accott Sunr Sent but I hoope they will Come to yor hands in good time: Gentlemen yo will find in my accott the Sugr Retaled by mr talboy Vallued at litle above 3d per pound: but I am Informed and by Sume that Bought of him: that they Gave Sixe pence per pound if yo thinke good to Speake with him about it you may: that if theare be any Error it may be Rectified haveing not Ellce at present But the presentation of my humble Sarvice unto you all I Remaine /yor/.

Sarvant to Comand

To mr petter Oliver ⁽²⁵⁾ mrchant
and Company these present
in Boston

per mr Rich Bayley

8

Newport July 18: 1666
Loveing Coz: Sr yors of the 4 Instant wth the things sent per

²³Daniel Burr, a merchant at Frankfort. See later letter.

²⁴Perhaps the Richard Bailey of Newport, who was admitted freeman in 1668, and was secretary of the Governor's Council in 1670. Cf. Savage.

²⁵Peter Oliver of Boston, an eminent trader and one of the founders of the Old South Church. Cf. Savage.

mr Low I have Recd: Returnning harty thanks for yor Constant Respects:

Sr I Intent at the Returne of Antho Low to be at Boston (but if Providence should otherwise ordr it) by Sume trustly freind Shall Send Some mony Sr I desiere that the Sugr for the Iron may be paid unto mr Usher and for the Remainr must Crave his patience: till Sugr Rise upon Consideration: which is all at present with Cordiall love unto yor Self and Deare Cozen, I Remaine yor Loveing Kinsman to Comand

To mr Elisha Hutchinson

merchant in Boston

per mr Jno Axton

9

Newport July 18: 1666

Honrd Unckle Capt tho Savage

Sr these are to Certify that I have Received an ordr from my mothr Phillips for to Receive Fifty powns from yo on accott of my Brothr Wm Sanford, tenn powns in mony the Remainr in English goods Sr my mothr informes me you are to have a months notteces: (which makes me: the Boulder to Inform yo thereof: Intending about a month hence to Come for it: which is all at present from Sr yor Ever Loveing Kinsman

10

Newport July the 24th 1666

[12]

Mr Rich Bulgar: ⁽²⁶⁾ yors of the 11th Instant from portsmouth unto my Father mr Brenton ⁽²⁷⁾ I have had the perusall of: in which yor are bould to Charge me with Severall Falce accusations Noe wayes becoming a parson of yor yeares: had injueres been done you (which by me hath never Been) the declarcng of the truth might much Redouned unto yor advantage: if/not it would unto yor Credit/but out of the Spirrett of mallices and Envey Pceeds nothing/but/falce hood: and the desiere of

²⁶Richard Bulgar of Portsmouth was General Solicitor of the colony in 1663. Cf. Austin.

²⁷Governor William Brenton was father-in-law of Peleg Sanford. Cf. Austin.

Contention: as for my Right into the lands of Nunaquacutt ⁽²⁸⁾
 I have from my Father Brenton: who Leagally Bought it, and
 honestly payd yor fathr Morrese ⁽²⁹⁾ for it, which Shall Sub
 stantiall be made to appere as occation shall Requier: therefore
 Seeke not unto you for a more large Confermation thereof:
 though you Claime Intrest therunto by Vertue of yor father
 Clemency: with Respect unto yor Conditions which Requers
 Rather a dutifull acknowledgmt of Kindnes: then lay a Charge
 of unjust actions it is true I have leced out my Intreest of the
 afore Said land unto two parson (yeet not Such I hoope as you
 out of mallice Render them to be, but if Soe your like to be noe
 looser by them: therfore hoope yo will not offer to mollest thm
 in the quiett injoymtt of there Right and as for yor two peny
 claim yo may lay yor title for it as Soune as yo please if yor
 Contience will permitt yo/to act/Such an unjust thing: me
 thinke the Consideration yo Claime it by: should Cause yor
 Silence if Rationall: Sr from my Infancey I have Been know of
 many about. yeet Cann truly Say Never Say never desiered a
 peny from any of them but what was Justly my Right which in
 time they may learne dearly to know: this is all the needfull at
 present from him that is desierous of peece and Love.

P. S.

This belongs to the othr Side begine at Credit.

Credit then I would desiere about twenty pownds of haber-
 dashers wares Sume wosted and Iresh Stockings and the Reest
 in Such goods as afore Said and one peece of very fine Broad
 Cloth and two peece of Corse Sr what yo doe give me
 Credit for I will make yo Just Sattisfaction for in Sugr from
 the Island of Barbados which if god send peece yo may Exspect
 Suddainly to Receve.

11

[13] Newport on Rhoad Island Decembr the 7th: 1666
 Respected freind mr Wm Pate: Sr my last unto yor Self
 was of the 15th Octor 1666 which I hoope is Come Safe unto

²⁸Nanaquacket in Tiverton.

²⁹This would seem to indicate that Richard Bulgar's wife, Lettice, was
 daughter of Capt. Morris.

yor hands: Sr had not the dangerousnes of the times prevented
 I had thought to have beene with you before this: but Since have-
 ing Settled myself in this I place: have noe thoughts yeet of
 Removeing, thearfore desiere that what yo have in yor hands of
 myne, you will by Some good Shippes that first Come in the
 Spring of the yeare Send it me in Such goods as are Exspresed
 heare follow/ing/in Nayles ⁽³⁰⁾ of Sisable Sorts not Exceeding
 duple teenns in bingnes to the quantety of 40s Starleing in good
 Knivs ⁽³¹⁾ two doz Ivory hafts)/3li worth/and in Siths to
 the value of/Sixe/pownds/worth/three peces of good Stript
 blancketting of the Beest Sort two peces of good/blew/duffalls
 Fowr peces of good Rd yard wid Cotten/Five/pownds worth
 of Brace Cettles ⁽³²⁾ not to Exceed 8 or tenn gallons one
 thousand of threed of Severall Sorts two Barr ⁽³³⁾ of good
 fine pistole powder, and what shall be remaining more due
 I desiere it may be Sent in good Lockerum ⁽²²⁾ dowles Canvice
 Carsey Searge [serge] and peniston ⁽³⁴⁾ Sr if you will please to
 furnish me with 50li or 100li on Credit Sr if you have any free-
 dom in yor Self for to Settle a Correspondencey for the futter
 [future] and to have yor Returnes in Sugr, for at present I
 have noe other way for makeing Returnes for England but I doe
 Rather desiere a Correspondencey wth your Self then any other
 parson, /having allredy made . . . with you/& being fully Sat-
 tisfyed in my Self Concerning you.

Sr in yors of the 28: of may 1662 yo are pleased to Inform me
 tht what Sugr I should Send unto yo, you would give Credit for
 as much more in goods Such as I should writ for, but I shall not
 urge on tht accott, but what Soever yo doe Send me on Credit
 wheather it be more or leese, will make yo Speedy Returnes for,

³⁰Nails.

³¹Knives.

³²Kettles.

³³Barrels.

³⁴A coarse woolen. The word is derived from Penistone in Yorkshire.

Sr I desiere to heare from yo by First opertunity, Soe Committing you to god I Rest yor assuerd Loveing Freind to Serve

P. S.

To mr William Pate
at the princes armes
in Grace church street
London these present
per Capt timothy Prout

} a Coopey of dito per
Capt Benj Gilliem ⁽³⁵⁾

[In the margin of the above letter]

Sr I desiere yo to send me a good Sadle and Furniture with a Case of very good pistolls and Sixe or Eight pownds worth of good Beeding as Ruggs and blankets &c and 3 pownds worth of Spices of all Sorts yor P. S

Leet these things be very good for my owne use.

Sr if the times Remaine dangerous I desiere tht yo would not Send much in one Shipp yor P. S

12

[14] Newport on Rhoad Island the 7 Decr 1666
Respected freind mr Wm Pate

Sr an acquaintance of myn one mr Elisha Hutchin/son/living in Boston: haveing adesier to have a Corrispo ⁽³⁶⁾ with yo for Sume/goods/and being himself altogether a stranger both by lettrs &c unto yo desiered me to make yo acquainted wth his desiers: which if yo please performe, yo need not make any dout of his Just Compliance with yo: according unto the tearmes he proposeth, the Some he was desiering to have Credit of you for was about/40/or Fifty pownds Starr: this is all at present from Sr yor assured Freind and Sarvant P. S.

to mr Wm Pate at the princes armes

in Grace Church Street London present

Sr please to direct yor lettr (for me) to mr Elisha Hutchinsons House in Boston

³⁵Capt. Benjamin Gillam was son of Benjamin Gillam, ship-carpenter of Boston. Capt. Gillam served in King Philip's War. His wife was Hannah, daughter of Thomas Savage, and so cousin of Governor Sanford. Cf. Savage.

³⁶Correspondence.

Newport on Rhoad Island the 7 Decr 66

Respected Freind

Sr the multitude of the trubles I mett withall at Boston: Caused me to omitt the presenting you with a few lines by the duch ⁽³⁷⁾ Sloop according to Intentions: but this/opertunity/happely presenting it Self: I have with Joye Imbraced it, and according unto yor desiers have heare inclosed Sent mr tho Doane Receit for the Sugr Recd on accot of John Browne, ⁽³⁸⁾ Sr the Cotton wooll ⁽³⁹⁾ yo Sent per John Gardner, was Sould for 16: 9. 6: one third mony and two third Cuntry pay, the Charges on the Sd Cotten wooll for Freight &c was 3li 19: 4d: Soe it produced Cleare 12li: 8: 2d Sr by this yo/may/understand how accott are betwixts us this with my Due Respects unto yor Self and mr Burr yor Brothr I Remaine

Sr Reall affectionate Frd
and Sarvent

To mr Dan Burr mrcht

at Franfort these

present per mr French

this is a true Coopey of the Doane Recit

Receved the 12th octor 1665: of mr peleg Sanford per the ordr of Daniell Burr and for the account of mr John Browne of Salam Junr in part for goods Sould him the quantity of thirty Seaven hundred and half of Browne Sugr I say Receved muscovados ⁽⁴⁰⁾ with the foot

per Tho. Doane.

Neport Decr the 7. 1666

[15]

Loveing Cozen Sr after due Respects unto yor Self and Second ⁽⁴¹⁾ presented these are to Request to Send me the

³⁷England was at war with Holland. Was this Dutch sloop a flag-of-truce; i. e., a vessel having a permit to go between two warring countries?

³⁸Mr. John Brown of Salem, Junior.

³⁹Cotton wool is raw cotton. It was much desired in the colonies. Cf. Weeden's Social and Economic History of N. E., p. 140.

⁴⁰Muscovado sugar, i. e., unrefined sugar, from the Spanish word mascabado.

⁴¹"Second" meaning "wife." Not found in the Oxford Dictionary.

things fro Jno Hulls: ⁽⁴²⁾ as allsoe if an opertunity present
Send me a good Frying pann Sr I have heare inclosed Sent 2
letttrs unto mr page the which I would Intreat yo to dd [deliver]
according to the derictions allsoe lett me understand as Sune as
yo Cann how the Biusnes goes betwext Stretton and Gibon ⁽⁴³⁾
I have allsoe Sent yo hearewith a letttr for you to Send mr Pate,
my wife presents her kind love unto yor Self and to her deare
Cozen yor Second, ⁽⁴¹⁾ Soe Reests yor Loveing Kinsman

P. S.

To mr Elisha Hutchinson
mrchant in Boston present
per tho Jenjngs ⁽⁴⁴⁾

15

Janry 16: 1666

Loveing Cozen:

Sr yors per tho Jenjngs ⁽⁴⁴⁾ I Receved and Returne you
harty thanks for yor many Favores Receved: Sr as for the
aresting of Edmond Gibbon I desiere yo would take my unckles
advice in the thing according unto which please to act, I have
Now Sent thomas Jenjngs on purpose to delivr unto yo this
letttr in which is inclosed Sume Evidences tht may be Sume what
helpfull unto Bartho Stretton in the Case Now depending & as
allsoe Edmond Gibbon his accotts, for which I have Bartho
Stretton Receits for the most of it on accot of Edmond Gibbon,
I have Sent two accotts in one I have omitted to give any Cre-
dite, I desiere you would advice with Sume about them which
they Judg most Sutable to be delivr if Gibbon Should have the
Better upon the Ap/ea/le, I desiere you would put my unckle in
mind to give in the Reasons of ap/ea/le in time the papers are in
Left Cooks ⁽⁴⁵⁾ hands I have also heare inclosed Bartho Stretton

⁴²John Hull of Boston, goldsmith, the maker of the famous pine tree shillings. Cf. Savage.

⁴³Edmund Gibbons. See next letter.

⁴⁴Thomas Jennings of Portsmouth. Cf. Austin. Jennings may have been a mariner.

⁴⁵Richard Cooke, a tailor from Gloucestershire, England, settled in Boston and resided on Tremont Street. He became a member of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston in 1643, and, according to Savage, was lieutenant in 1656. Cf. Mass. Col. Rec.

Receipts which you may please to Shoe unto my Unckle, I pray
dd [deliver] the Inclosed unto Bartho Stretton and let him have
Sight of the Evidences heare inclosed, which is all at present but
my and my wifes love to your Self and our Loveing Cozen

I Remaine yor Evr Loveing

Kinsman

Cozen theare is two Noats of Batt which are for paymtt of
Sugr to phillips ⁽⁶⁾ on his owne accott: let him have them up:
and take two of the Same date on Gibbon accott yo may Seale
and dd Batt Lettr

16

[16]

Newport, July 16 1666

Brothr Bartho: Stretton

I have Indevrd what lay in my powr to Inquire out the truth
of the matter in differrence, but most heare from alltogethr
Strangrs to the Biusness, the last weake I mad a jirney [jour-
ney] on parpose unto Seacunke to Speake with Capt Willett ⁽⁴⁶⁾
and mr Paine ⁽⁴⁷⁾ who doe Both declare tht one Gibbon did sell
thm Salt but theare not being any offciere neare those parts
Could not procuere the Evidences though Both willing and Redy
to it, But what Capt Willett doth Say in that thing have with
mr Brenly ⁽⁴⁸⁾ thomas Ward ⁽⁴⁹⁾ and pardon tilling /hast/ ⁽⁵⁰⁾

⁴⁶Capt. Thomas Willett lived in what is now East Providence. He was the first Englishman to hold the office of Mayor of New York. Cf. Austin.

⁴⁷Stephen Paine was a miller who came from near Attleburgh in Norfolk, England, and settled in Rehoboth, which he represented in the Massachusetts General Court for many years. Cf. Savage. He was a prominent merchant, and must not be confused with James Paine, the sea captain, mentioned in the next letter.

⁴⁸Judge Francis Brinley of Newport a member of Sir Edmund Andros' council and a prominent politician. Cf. Austin.

⁴⁹Thomas Ward, a young Newport merchant. He later became Treasurer of the colony, and his son, Richard Ward, became Governor of the colony.

⁵⁰Pardon Tillinghast of Providence, shop keeper, held various political offices, and was pastor of the First Baptist Church. Cf. Austin. He belonged to the Tillinghast family of Sussex, and was a kinsman of the Tillinghast, who was a fanatical preacher and Fifth Monarchy man in the time of the Commonwealth. The latter is referred to in Carlyle's Cromwell. G. A. M.

Evidence Sent unto my Cozen Elisha which I hoope may Stand
yo in good Stead I have hiered yo /thomas Leming/parpusley to
Carry them ; which is all at present but my and my wifes love to
you and Sistr with the little one

I Remaine yor Loveing
yor ordr for paying paul Gy/n/ne
687 pownds Sugr should be
datted the 6 February 1663 wch yo
by Sume mistake datted the 6 Augstt 63

17

Newport Janry the 16: 1666

Loveing freind mr Harvey ⁽⁵¹⁾

I have by the Bearrer heareof tho Jenjngs Sent yo Eight
yards of Reed Cotten two is for yor Sonn thomas I would have
sent it Before now Could I have gotton any one to have Carried,
freind I pray gitt what Iron ⁽⁵²⁾ yo Cann tht is due unto me Into
yor hands for I shall have occation for aboute 15li . . . in the
Spring: I pray Speake with John turner tht what he owes may
be Redy by that time, this [with] my and my wifes Love unto
yor Self and our good Landlady, I Remaine

Yor Loveing freind

To mr Wm Harvey
in tanton [Taunton]
per tho Jenjngs.

18

[17] Newport on Rhoad Island Janry 18: 1666
Loveing Brothr

yors of the 5th Novr last per mr paine is Recd wth the Bills
of Lading and Invoyses for the goods &c the which are Received

⁵¹William Harvey of Taunton came from Somersetshire, and was one
of the original purchasers of Taunton. In 1664 he was chosen to repre-
sent Taunton in the Massachusetts General Court. He married Joane
Hucker of Cohannet, and had among other children, Thomas, born Dec.
18, 1641, who is mentioned in this letter. Cf. The Harvey Book by O. J.
Harvey.

⁵²There were iron works at Raynham (then a part of Taunton), which
had been set up by the Leonards, who came from the iron works at Lynn.
G. A. M.

But in Such Bad Condition that nevr had goods Come in worse /one of/ the teares in partnrship through the defect of the Casque was all leaked out to twenty one Gallons and one pinte, the other tearse and Barrell wanted 3 2/4 of full my teares one with an othr wanted at least 4 Gallons a peese: one of the hhd's 4½ the othr Eight wheare the Fault is I know not the Casque all Semeing very good ondy one tearse of myne which is utterly Spoyled by the Coop'r putting in of traine oyle heads or peeces of heads into it yo may informe yor Coop'r of his knavish dealeing with yo for the Liker is Soe much Spoyled with it tht Smells and tast Soe of traine oyle that none will drinke theareof the mastr and I have had great Contest about it, but it is the opinion of all men tht tast it: that it is ondy damnified by the Casque as I am allso Redy to Judge though for the Leakerdg doe very much question the Seamens honestyes about them, I should desier heareafter that the Seamen or the mastr might tast the Licker before it goos out of yor Storehouse, and for the futher Send noe goods in that shipp Exsept they will ingage by bill of Laying to put it on shoare at Fathr Brenton wharf ⁽⁵³⁾ and doe not Send above 3 or 4000 /in/ one vessell in these trublesome times as for Benj Grace I have . . . our mr Brenton his accott Can find noe Such Charge thearefore Cannot thinke tht Ever I accepted of any Such thinge, Brothr I would have yo keepe a strict hand our Elisha But not to Send him home till it be quiett times Soe with my Love to yor Self and all friends I Remanr yor Evr Loveing Brothr
To mr Wm Sanford
mrchant these present
in Barbados per mr
Henry Fall

19

Newport Janr th 21: 1666.

Loveing Brothr Father Brenton haveing ordered John Grafton (if it please god he arrives at Mr Gartney in Safty to Returne unto home heare wheare he intends to load him with horses and

⁵³Brenton's wharf at Newport.

mares for the Barbados his desiere is tht by him yo would Send
him five or Sixe Barrl of Rume as many of mollasses: one
hhds of good muscovado Sugr two or three baggs of Cotton
wooll allso please be mindfull of me by tht Ketch but Send me
noe Sugr hearaftr Soe with my love Unto yor Self: I Remaine
yor Evr Loveing Brothr

To mr Wm Sanford
mrchent These
present Barbados
per mr Handy

20

[18]

Newport on Rhoad Island

Respected Freind

Left John King Sr yors of the 5 Nopr with the 2 hhds of
Sugr I Receved and have according unto yor desiere Bought yo
a very good Gelding of in this
about made Sayle of yor

Sugr for provitions: to any person which in this Island is very
Scarce and

the whole Cuntry Since my So cheap but
yor is made Sayle of at the higt Rates and haveing as
Judge procuered yo a Nagg fitting for yor own Use
though with be most acceptable (though at

send one only fitting for service

Sr I Cannot give any incoragmt for the sending of Sugr for
this part of the Cuntry very little quantity

without transportation, for other parts Rume

Brought (unto
these parts) Came the Barbados Sr heare inclosed yo will find
a Bill of layding and on accot which the Remembrance of Soe at
present shall forbear to Inlarg But with Cordiall Respects pre-
sented doe Remaine yor freind and Servant to Comand

To Left John King

These present in Barbados
per mr tho Hart

Newport on Rhoad Island Febr

Mr tho: Butcher Sr yors per James paine with one Butt one
hhds of wine and /one/ Boxe of woolen Stocking is Recd (the
wine wanted much of Full) which I shall indevr to make Sayle
of to yor Beest advantage: I hoope to make Sayle thereof
Speedely which if I doe the may by the next oppertunity
Exspect Sume/it may prove all yor/Returnes: from Sr yor
assured Loveing Freind to Comand P S
to mr tho Butcher

these present in Barbados
per mr tho Harte ⁽⁵⁴⁾

[19] Newport on Rhoad Island Febr: 18: 1666-7
Lovinge Brothr My last unto yo was per Henry Fell in
which gave yo to understand of the loose Sustained in the goods
Recd from on Board the Newport these may Fardr informe yo
tht I have Bought yo one mare tht Cost me 12li one two yeare
ould mare at 6li and one mare Fole by the mares at 3li which
Stocke is in the hands of my Brothr Sam Sanford: I have
allsoe Sume thoughts to procuere yo sum sheepp and Cow kind
if yo Judg it Convenient, but till heare farth from yo shall For-
beare, Brothr yo will heare inclosed Receve tho Butchers accot
(I wondr he omitted to give Credt) on which is due unto him But
174 Sugr which is desered might be Sattisfied as all mr Hill and
mr Feakes accot allowed: and mr Ayshfords: I pray settle the
accot with Antho Fent Michell of Austins ⁽⁵⁵⁾ Bay: I have allsoe
heare inclosed Sent yo Joseph Yeamans accot on which is due
[Blank] But by the list of debts I have left him a debtor but
for: and if any was ever paid I have omitted to give him Credit.
I /pray/ settle it and give me an accot theareof Brothr as for
Returnes I have by Formr lettr advised yo Soe Judg it needless

⁵⁴Thomas Hart of Newport, son-in-law of Roger Williams. In 1666 he was ordered by the General Assembly to procure a boat and hands to go to Warwick on the Assembly's service. Cf. Austin. He was a sea captain and went to Barbados. See letter of Feb. 18, 1666/7.

⁵⁵Oistins Bay, Christ Church parish, Barbados.

at this time to truble you questioning not yor indevr of Comply-
 ence to the uttermost Brothr send noe Returns by this shipp
 Exsept they will ingage to land it at Fathr Brenton wharf and if
 any if any Exseed not 4000li of Sugr to be Sent in Rume: Send
 2 or 3 doz of Broumes;

Soe Comitting yo to god I Remaine
 yor Evr Loveing Brothr

P. S

To mr Wm Sanford mrchent
 in Barbados these present
 per tho Hart

23

Newport on Rhoad Island Aprell
 the: 16: 1667

Sr haveing not had Soe trusty a hand as I could have desiered,
 darst not adventure the Sending of the Inclosed Bills and
 accotts, But being informed tht mr Will Brown is gon for Bos-
 ton in a sloop wheareof Capt tho Fleet ⁽⁵⁶⁾ is Comandr I have
 in part Sent downe this Bearrer Messingr on purpose to dd
 [deliver] them unto yor Self Sr if in any thing heare I may
 be for usuable unto yo please to Comamend him that
 is yor most H Sarvant.

A List of debts left in the hands of Wm Sanford payable unto
 Barto Stretton on accot of Edmond Gibbon Sugr
 li

Geo: Hancocke per Judgmtt at the hole Court besids
 Charges 5000

Rich penfold per dito at dito besids Charges 5900

John Roots and partners per dito at dito besid charges 2550

John Roots per Bill 5000

Receved from peleg Sanford the above list of debts amounting
 unto the Just Summe of 18450 pownds of Sugr payable as above
 said for the which Casualltys Exsepted I will give a Just
 accoumpt theareof unto Bartho Stretton or ordr as Wittnes my
 hand the 28 march 1665

⁵⁶Probably Capt. Thomas Fleet of Huntington, Long Island.

[20] Newport the 16th Aprell 1667
Loveing Bartho Stretton

Since my Comeing home: my Brothr John and myself have indevered what in us lay to the uttermost of our abbillettyes mr Coddington ⁽⁵⁷⁾ and Caleb Carr ⁽⁵⁸⁾ have given theare Evidences: which will without question: Stand yo in good Steed: Nothing more Cann I gitt of Brenly, Smith ⁽⁵⁹⁾ I have not Spoken with: But I question not But yo have Sofitient Evidences to Carry yor Cause: I pray be very well advised and be suer to gitt all yor Evidences in Redines: I question not But yo may prevayle with Left Cooke to manage yor Cause: Soe desiering to heare fro[m] you by fst oppertunities: with Reall Love unto yor Self Sister and yor Little ones I Remaine yor Evr Loveing Brothr

heare inclosed is mr Coddinton
and mr Carr Evidences mr tolman ⁽⁶⁰⁾
hath declared he Cann speake
Sumthing to the Cause: the which
Brothr Intends to have him
attest before mr Baulston ⁽⁶¹⁾

⁵⁷Governor William Coddington of Rhode Island. Cf. Austin.

⁵⁸Caleb Carr of Newport, Governor of Rhode Island in 1695, for whom the new Newport-Jamestown ferry-boat is named. He was drowned on October 10, 1700. Cf. Austin.

⁵⁹Richard Smith, the younger, of Cocumscussoc, near Wickford, R. I., a man prominent in the politics of the colony. His house is still standing. Cf. Austin.

⁶⁰Peter Tallman or Taelman was a German, born in or about 1623 at Hamboro (Hamburg). He went to Barbados in 1647, and married Ann Hill in Christ Church parish there on 2 Jan., 1649/50. In 1650 he went to Newport, and later settled in Portsmouth. He was frequently at New Amsterdam, and seems to have resided some time in Flushing and Middleburgh. Tallman's Island was named for him or his son. He was a very large land-owner in Martha's Vineyard, and very prominent in settling the island. He owned land on the Taunton River, in what is now Dighton, and seems to have traded with Delaware and Virginia, as well as New Netherlands. One of his sons settled at Flushing and another at Guildford, Conn. (N. E. H. G. R. vol. 69, p. 90; Aspinwall, p. 259, 370, 371; Records of New Amsterdam, vol. VII; Austin) G. A. M.

⁶¹Lieutenant William Baulstone, inn-keeper of Boston and Newport, was for many years a member of the General Assembly of Rhode Island. Cf. Austin.

Newport the 16th Aprill 1667

Loveing Brothr yor by Jno Grafton is Receved but the Rum not yet landed: we are intended to Send him unto yo with all Expedition Loaded Cheifly with horses and mares: Brothr I have Beene in grant troubles about Brothr Stretton. Gibbon haveing Sued me for accot of 3200 of Sugr which the Court hath ordered me to give him an accot of: and is Fallen indebted unto me 23526 I haveing made him debter for the list of debts heare inclosed: the wch I would desier yo to Signe before 2 Evidences tht was in the Cuntry at my Coming of and this shall be yor Sofitient discharge for Soe doing please to Send it by the first oppertunity or by 2 or 3 vessels in Respect unto the danger: and if be Receved yo shall noe wayes damnified by any of them: what Letter heareof yo Send to Boston for me inclose thm to Cozen Elisha I pray Brothr by mindfull of this Buisnes for till Such time as I Receive this List I Cannot Recouer the 23 of Sugr of him heare: Soe I Reest yor Ever

Loveing Brothr

Sent Cooply per Jno Grafton

the 24: May 1667

Newport Aprill 17 1667

[21]

Loveing Freind

mr Harvey I have made Bould to in treat yo to take Care of 11 Baggs Cotton wooll and one hhd of Sugr (which I have Sent by mr John Tripp ⁽⁶²⁾) to gitt them housed at Sidrak Willbures ⁽⁶³⁾ if you Cann: or at any othr Convenient place and please to dd [deliver] thm as Followeth: the Largest Bagg of yellow Cotton: being marked PSX 12 unto — Hawa /rd/ ⁽⁶⁴⁾

⁶²John Tripp of Portsmouth was a carpenter living at the north end of the island. He had two boats, and operated the ferry there. Cf. Austin.

⁶³Shadrack Wilbor of Taunton was son of Samuel Wilbur of Newport. Shadrack was allowed to sell liquor, if "careful not to sell to such as will abuse same." In 1687 he was charged with having "written and published a certain scandalous, factious and seditious writing," and was imprisoned. Cf. Austin.

⁶⁴Perhaps Hayward.

the whelwright of Bridgwatter the other Bagg of yellow marked PSX 10 unto Goodman Harris ⁽⁶⁵⁾ of the other two Bagg one of yellow the other of white please to open and dd these parcels Following Viz. unto Goodman Godferry ⁽⁶⁶⁾ 50li of yellow Cotton to Goodman Carry ⁽⁶⁷⁾ 80 pownds of white Cotton to mr Williss ⁽⁶⁸⁾ 30 or 40li of which Sort he desiers and as for the Remainr with the Sugr yo may please to dispose of to such men as are Honest and will make good and punctuall paymt and for yor Care and paines hearin Shall give yo Satisfaction by this Boat Send me about 200li of Iron but not more till yo heare Fardr allso give the party above nottes of the Wooll being redy for them

27

Aprill the 22. 1667 Loveing Cozen

Sr I have indevered what lay in my powr to get out the truth of things wth Relation unto Bartho Stratton and have heare inclosed with a lettr unto him mr Coddintons and mr Carr Evidence which I pray delivr unto him after yo have perused them I pray delivr mr Joylise his lettr I had Sent them down this could I have mett with atrusty hand but that not presenting I was Forced to hier a man on purpose but by a Fall from a horse was dis to performe the Jurney: Soe with harty and Cordia/ll/ thank unto yor Self my Good Cozen for the many Favors Receved I Remaine yor Evr Loveing Kinsman

28

[22]

Newport the 6: May 1667:

Honrd Uncle: Sr by my Cozen Elisha lettr I am adviced tht Gibbon hath taken out the Execution: which to me is Exseding Strang: that such unjust proceeds are tollerated as for the Comenceing of the accion and the proceeds theareon against

⁶⁵Perhaps Arthur Harris of Duxbury and Bridgewater. Cf. Savage.

⁶⁶Perhaps Francis Godfrey.

⁶⁷John Cary, an original proprietor, and the first town clerk. Cf. History of Bridgewater.

⁶⁸Deacon John Willis.

me yo are Soe well acquainted thearewith: tht I shall forbear
 my Sence theareof: but for the Execution in the Eye of Reason
 Seems and by the Judgmt of all Juditious parsons /ever will/
 be/thought/ absolutely Conter to Law Equity or Justice: for . I
 was Never Sued as a debtor but for an accot and without proba-
 tion of debt for which a leagall cort of law ought to be taken
 (which against [me] Nev'r yeet hath beene) noe Execution
 Cann goe Forth: and as to the accion it Self the very words of
 the Jurrors are (they found for the plante 266li:13s:4d damage:
 or that the deft doe Render or give unto the planti: a Just and
 true account of 32000 pownds of Sugr which he the deft hath
 owned to be in his hands in Bills and Sugr for the plant accot
 &c.) which I have Justly and truly permormed by Rendering of
 my accots: which the Creadite theareof is above the Sume Sued
 for which if he Refuse to accept I hoope the Cuntry will judg
 the Ingery done me Exseeding great, for Sueing me for an
 Estate he darst not owne: and as for the debter Side theareof
 if I Cannot: approve it to be a Just Charge I must then make the
 whole Credite good unto him Sr I am soe much greived in my
 Spirret because of the truble I have Brought yor Self into
 (though the damag shall be nothing) that I am not able to
 Expresse my Sorrow: Sr the urgency of my occations Comand
 me Lease farthr to truble yo at this time ondy desiering if yo
 Judg it Nessesary to Come downe please to Informe me by a
 line or two from yor Self: Sr per the Beare heareof I would
 have Come: had not the daly Exspection of John Grafton ⁽⁶⁰⁾
 arrivall and the nessesity of my being heare to despatch him
 (haveing ingaged to Load one half of . . .) been the absolute hin-
 drance, Sr with the presents of my humble Respects unto yor

⁶⁰John Grafton, a mariner, who was on board the ketch *Providence* when she was wrecked on Sept. 16, 1669. His extraordinary escape is related by Mather in his "Remarkable Providences." John Grafton of Salem was son of Joseph Grafton, a well known merchant and sea captain there. He married Seeth (Gardner) Conant of the well known Gardner family of Salem on 1 Dec., 1659, and died 24 Nov., 1715 (Cf. Savage; Gardner Family, 1907, by Dr. Frank A. Gardner, p. 21). G. A. M.

good Self my Ant with all my Cozens I take leave and Remaine
Sr yor Ever obbliged Kinsman to Comand
to Capt Edward Hutchinson
in Boston these present
per mr Jno Richard ⁽⁷⁰⁾

29

May 6: 1667

Loveing Cozen Sr yors by mr John Richards I Received and I
am Exceedingly trubled that by my meanes my uncle is lick to
Com into truble (but his damage shall be nothing) I question
not but Such unjust proceeds will be Regulated: Sr I am glad
(and Returne yo hartly thanks) that yo have paid Jno Wood-
mancey ⁽⁷¹⁾: John Grafton is not yeet arived: Soe Sonn as he
Comes shall inquir for the hhds of Sugr & give yo an accot
theareof: and as for the aresting Gibbon act as yor descretion
with good advice shall direct you. I am glad yo have Such good
hoops of Stretton Cause: but I am hartely Sorry the partys yo
mentioned are taken of: Sr I must Beeg yor Excuse for at
present Can not Farthr inlarge Save ondly to present my Kind
Respects unto yor Self my Good Couzen yor Second. Coz Elia:
Brothr turner ⁽⁷²⁾ & : Remaine yor Ever

Loveing Kinssman

30

[23]

Newport May : 24th: 1667

Loveing Brothr

after Respects premised these are to Informe yo tht I have
Layd on Board Ketch Martha and Mary Comandr John Grafton
three horses on accott of my Unckle Samuell Hutchinson, being
marked on the Right fore houghe with PS : PS: of Culler as
Followeth: one Blake horse one Sorrell and one Roane, and
Consigned unto yor Self: also on my one accot: is Remitted unto

⁷⁰Perhaps Major John Richards of Boston. Cf. Savage.

⁷¹John Woodmansey, a Boston merchant. Cf. Savage.

⁷²Ephraim Turner of Boston, brazier (son of Robert Turner, the inn-keeper), married Sarah Phillips, daughter of William Phillips of Saco and Boston, and so step-sister of Peleg Sanford. Turner was ensign of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston, and served as lieutenant during King Philip's War.

you one Roane mare one large Blacke mare one Sorrell horse
 with a white Face one Blake horse with a small Stare one:
 Blacketh Browne with a stare and strips all Branded on the neare
 fore hough with PS:PS: as for advice in Sayles, I apprehend it
 Needlese being fully assured yo will act as for yor Self Both in
 Sayles and Returnes: I pray as opertut present Remitt me hethr
 Sume Rume, mallaces ⁽⁷³⁾ and good Ravell ⁽⁷⁴⁾ Cotton: 2 or 3
 Baggs: I pray Brothr performe my Request in tht I desiered in
 myne of the 16th Aprell last a Coopey of which with Bills of
 Layding for what is above written yo will heare inclosed Receve,
 Soe with myn and wife Loveing Respects present unto yo I take
 leave and Remaine yor Loveing Brothr
 to mr Wm Sanford merchant
 in Barbados present per Jno Grafton
 who Sett Sayl from this Island the
 25th day of May about 10 o'Clocke
 being Satterday.

31

Newport May : 24 1667

mr tho Butcher

Sr I have layden on Board Ketch Martha and Mary Comandr
 John Grafton, on yor propore accott one Sorrell mare with a
 white Face marked on the Neare hough with the letters. PS PS
 Standing as afore Sett downe I would by thes vessell have
 Sent yo a barrl of porke ⁽⁷⁵⁾ but she being Full Could not gitt it
 in but by the Next yo may Exspect it, heare inclosed yo wi/ll/
 Receve a bill of Layden which is all at present from yor Love-
 ing Freind to use

to mr thomas Butcher
 these present Barbados
 per John Grafton

⁷³Molasses.

⁷⁴What is meant by "Ravell Cotton"?

⁷⁵The exportation of pork from Rhode Island to Barbados presupposes extensive hog farms in the colony.

[24]

Newport June 24th 1667

Honrd Uncle mr Sam Hutchinson

Sr these are to Inform tht I have by mr Jno Grafton in Ketch Martha & Mary Sent three horses for Barbados on yor accot and have allso taken on accot of what sheep yo have on the Island: the particulars of which yo shall have heare inclosed Sr I Cannot dispose of yor Necke of land on any Resonable tearmes and for the Meddow Edward Fisher ⁽⁷⁶⁾ hath throwne it up the Fenceing being gone to decay: and I have beene at Charg to Repaire them but all will not Keep out the Cattle Exsept it be mad New which will be a very great Charges Sr had I had a bage I would have Sent yor wooll by Antho Low * Sr with due Respects unto yor self I take leave and Remane yor Ever Loveing Kinsman

* Sr by m Jno Allmy ⁽⁷⁷⁾ I have Sent yo fice fatt Weathrs and 3 one Ewes which Com out of yor Five Acres Flocke: I have also ordered my Brothr John Sanford to deliver three Fatt Weathrs which mr Almy hath promised me he will Call for to mr Sam Hutchinson in Boston these present per mr Jno Allmy.

Newport July 22th : 1667

Loveing Brothr yors per Legg Beare ⁽⁷⁸⁾ and the Canary Bird is Come to hand wth the goods: one yor accot which shall indevr to make Sayle theareof to yor Beest advantage: my last to you was per mr John Grafton whom I hoope Ere this is Safly arived by [him] I Remitted unto yor [self] 3 horses on

⁷⁶Edward Fisher of Portsmouth was a deputy in the General Assembly in 1672. Cf. Austin.

⁷⁷John Almy, a Portsmouth merchant. He served as captain in King Philip's War. His father, William Almy, gent., came from South Kilworth, co. Leics., where he married Audrey Barlow of Lutterworth in 1626. His father was Christopher Almy, gent. William and his father appear in the pedigree of Almy of Badly in the Visitation of Northamptonshire, 1619 (Cf. N. E. H. G. Reg. vol. 71, pp. 311-324, and Essex Inst. Coll. vol. 49, pp. 172-176). G. A. M.

⁷⁸Was Legg Beare a brother of Henry Beere?

my unckles accott and five on my owne and allsoe Inclosed a Coopey of a lest of debts Relat to the difference depending Betwext Gibbon and my Self desir [ing] yo to Signe the Same (as formerly I have done which I feare is miscard) giving you my Reasons thearefore and tht yo may be Certainly Informed of the truth of what yo desier Know tht as yeet Gibbon hath not Recouered the Exstate out of my hands but hath Recouered a Judgmtt agst me to give an accott of 32000li of Sugr the which I have given him & theare is due on tht accott from him to me twenty odd thousand of Sugr which I Cannot yeet Recovr of him for want of the lest desired to be by yor Self Subscribed upon Receit of which my Intent is Forthwith to arrest him, Soe Earnestly desiers yor Spedy Complyence in the afore Sd promised (.) Concernes Brothr you may act as you please as to goodfellow I judgeing it Cannot be any wayes prejuditiall (to Send home the Regects) Either to my Coz: or Self & I pray be mindfull of mr whiteing to Send him what yo have Receved on his accott as for Newes I have not any to Impart but what I judg will be with yo before the Receit heareof the Hollanders have taken Burnt at Vergeno 17 Sayle of Shippes wheareof one was Elsebeth Frigett of 46 gunns: they have as yeet Beene nearer our Coast, the lord put a period to all these differences: I pray as opertunity present Send me Sume Rume & good Cotton wooll Ravell and one hhd or a Barrl of very good museouado Sugr for my owne use pray See it be very good and 2 or 3 doz of Browmes this with my love presented I Remaine yor Evr Lo Brothr.

34

[25]

Newport July 15: 1667

Deare Love ⁽⁷⁹⁾: the Report of thy hea [1] th & Safe being at tanton (after thy most tedious voyadg was to me noe Small Comfort but alsoe being Informed of the truble tht yo was forsed to pas through after yor arivall theare, was very uncomfortable unto me to heare, but yo being Sencable of my Condition must attribute Every thing unto its Right Senter: tht being

⁷⁹To wife Mary.

given yo may be assuered yo should not have beene Exposed to
tht yo have Beene without my presence, Deare I have by the
Bearer heareof Ebenezer Moone ⁽⁸⁰⁾ Sent the a pa [ir] of shoes
which hoop will fitt, if not I pray let me know as alsoe for what
yo want Ellce Could I gitt soe much into Fauer as to procuer
Leave I would not long be from the But be suer I shall be very
vegelant to attend and if possible Cann, will Sundainly give the
a vissett, my Duty to Mothr with Reale Love to Brothr and
Sister I take leave and Remaine

thy Ever Loveing Husband

35

Newport July 25 1667

Mr tho Butcher

Sr I have per the Ketch Rebecca Com mr James paine
Remitted unto yor Self on Barrl porke for which Inclosed yo
will Recd a bill of Layding for: my last unto yor Self was per
mr Jno Grafton per whom Sent you one mare which/I hoop/is
Safely Come to yor hands which [is] all at present from yor
assuerd freind & Sarvant

per Ketch

Rebbecca

36

Newport Augst: 5 1667

Mr tho Butcher Sr my last unto yor Self was per Ketch Rebec-
ca: in which Remitted unto yor Self on Barrl of porke: a second
bill of layding with yor accotts heare inclosed you will Receive
from Sr yo freind & Sarvat

to mr tho Butcher in Barbados

per

⁸⁰Ebenezer Moone of Newport. Cf. Austin. He used an armorial seal
in 1675, but it was probably not his own. H. M. C. The name Moone is a
corruption of Mohun and is to be found at this period in Dorsetshire and
Eastern Devon. The original seat of the family was Dunster in Somer-
set, which William de Mohun (from Moyon in Normandy) held in
Domesday. G. A. M.

Newport Augst 5 1667

Left Jno King

Sr per mr tho Hart Comandr of the shipp Newport ⁽⁸¹⁾ I Remitted unto yor Self a spetiall Gelding ⁽⁸²⁾ with Bill of Layding: and an accott of the Sayle of yor Sugr: the which I have allsoe heare inclosed hoopeing yo will be mindfull theareof: Sr I am hartely Sorry tht yor First adventure unto me hath proved so discouradging: Sr if yor thoughts are to Send any for these parts: let it be good Rume or mallasces: wch is most vendable heare: Sr with due Respects unto yor Self I Remaine
yor Ever Humble Sarvant

Newport Augst the 5th 1667

[26]

Loveing Brothr yor per Jno Grafton with Invoyce and Bill of lading: according unto the Same goods are Receved: as allso the list: for which Returne yo many thanks: and as for the Lists yo desiere to be Sent they shall accordinly be done one of thm is is alredy Cancelled: but at present Cannot Send thm by Reason my papers are all at tanton: but by mr Grafton whom yo may Suddainly Exspect wth horses: I Intend to Send them: by tho Hart I writt unto yo and [sent] Sume accotts a Coopey of which wth the accotts when Cann Come at shall Send yo: I have heare inclosed Jno King Lettr and an accot which desiere yo to take a Co [py] theareof: and Remind him of the Ballence: Soe wth my Love presented I Remaine Sr yor Evr Love

Newport Augst 18: 1667

Loveing Cozen

Sr I have according to yor ordr delivered the Sloop unto mr

⁸¹The earliest record of a vessel named for Newport, R. I.

⁸²A gelding is a castrated horse.

John Williams ⁽⁸³⁾ & paid him what you ordered me: Sr I was at great Charge in the leasing her & 3L:10s pd a seaman for Wages due I pray be mindfull of me &/yo/will shall be Still oblige to be Redy to Sarvue to the uttmmost of yor powr

Sr of yor Loveing Kinsman

40

[27]

Newport Octor 19: 1667

Honoured Uncle

Sr yors of the 14: Instant I have Receved and doe hartely Rejoyce that yo are likly to be Freed from tht trubble which I must for Ever Confese you have . . . me I have Brought upon you Sr I have Beene at yor Tenants Slockums ⁽⁸⁴⁾ and ther answer is that at present yor Rent is not due But when due will pay you in porke at Boston: in order unto wch they are Now affatting of Swine and intend to Send them downe alive: and as for the 22 Weathers they Spake unto Cozen Elisha about they have Since his departure desposed of thm: by Reason of which Cannot gitt Such a Competable Number of yors as will incoradge any to Come down with thm But shall indever to Send

⁸³This is clearly John Williams, son of Nathaniel Williams of Boston, a very wealthy merchant. John Williams married a daughter of Dr. John Alcock (A.B. Harvard, 1646) of Roxbury by his wife, Sarah Palsgrave. The latter was a daughter of Dr. Richard Palsgrave, the early settler of Charlestown, Mass., in 1629. After his marriage, Williams removed to his father-in-law's estate at Block Island, and he had a wharf and warehouse on the island in the Great Salt Pond there, whence he traded to Barbados. About 1679 Williams removed to Newport, where he was a prominent merchant and Attorney General in 1685. He died in 1687 and his will was proved on 25 Oct., 1687, in Boston (See R. I. H. M. VI:55). He was a benefactor of Dr. Hiscox's Baptist Church in Newport. His widow became the second wife of Robert Guthrie, one of the Scottish prisoners, who settled at Block Island. Palsgrave Williams, the son of John Williams, was a noted pirate and closely associated with Bellemey, who was cast away on Cape Cod in 1717. The last known of Williams is that he was the head of a pirate settlement in the Bahamas. He left a wife and children at Newport. (The Genealogical Magazine ed. Putnam, vol. III, pp. 4, 12). G. A. M.

⁸⁴Giles Slocum of Portsmouth and his wife, Joan. Cf. Austin. He is undoubtedly the Giles Slocum, son of Philip, baptized at Old Cleeve, co. Somerset, on 28 Sept., 1623. Charity Slocum, wife of Philip, belonged to a well to do family of clothiers at Old Cleeve named Bickham. (N. E. H. G. R. vol. 78, pp. 395, 396). G. A. M.

them downe when any sheep is driven downe: ^(84a) I am Informed tht mr Almy is Suddainly inten/ded/ for Boston: intend by him to Send if possible Cann what is fitt: Sr and as fore the wooll will by first oppertunity Send it: Sr there is due from Edward Fisher For Rent 6l which I question not but Cozen hath Informed yo of: he now profers a Cow in part: Sr please to Inform yor pleasure therein and accordingly shall acte Sr with my Reall Sarvice and due Respects unto yor Self my ant and all the Rest of my Friends humbly presented I take leave and Remaine Sr yor Ever most obliged Kinsman

41

Deare Cozen: after Respects presented unto yor Self and Second, Coz Eleakime ⁽⁸⁵⁾ Capt Frost ⁽⁸⁶⁾ and Reest of our freinds presented: Sr these are to Request yo that if yo Cann Meet with a Convenient Conveyence ⁽⁸⁷⁾ by land that to Send me my Cloth Suite and the Waistcoat I left at yor house: and if yo Cann Conveniently Spare about tenn yards of yor Lockerum please to Send me Soe much and I shall give yo Content: I pray put the Close up that they may not take hurt in bringing. Coz yor tenant goeing for tanton Carried yor mare or the mare you made Coyse of with him: but how it Came about I know not But for Sertaine the mare is at present Lost therefore I thinke it Convenient yo Send ordr Concerning her: this is all at present from yor Loveing kinsman

^{84a}Did they drive sheep from Newport to Boston in 1667?

⁸⁵Eliakim Hutchinson, nephew of William Hutchinson, was son of Richard Hutchinson, the London ironmonger. Edward, brother of Eliakim, took his father's Irish property, and became the ancestor of the Hely-Hutchinsons, Earls of Donoughmore. Eliakim settled in Boston as a merchant and founded a family. Another brother, Jonathan, was a merchant at Bridgetown, Barbados, where his will was proved 29 Oct. 1689, and it was he who undoubtedly induced Peleg Sanford and his brothers, William and Elisha, to go thither. (Cf. N. E. H. G. Reg. vol. 67, p. 364 and Hutchinson & Oliver Families, p. 13 and Savage). G. A. M.

⁸⁶Probably Capt. Charles Frost, who was killed by the Indians in 1697. Cf. Savage.

⁸⁷An interesting reference to land transportation between Boston and Newport.

Decemr 2: 1667

[28]

Respected Cozen

Sr yors of the 28 Novr with the Inclosed paprs I Recd and do desiere tht yo will please to Send those all that Came in mr Roberts by Antho: Low: but for the Spareing of any of my haberdash wares I am in a Strate what to answer not Knowing what I have: but if the Invoice Come unto yor hand: and yo will please to take 4: or 5: Ferckins of Nayles at Least and as much in haberdasher wares as will amount unto 20 li wth the Nayles as they Cost yo may make take them: provided yo take an Equall proportion of Each Sort of the wares: which I question not but yo are Free to doe (otherwise yo know it may be a damage unto me) and for the advance I am Loath to Sett undr 5s per Cent, but unto yor Self I Leave it to give as yo by of others: Cozen I have indeverd what Lay in my powr to have gotten my Unckles Sheepe down but the weather hath prevented: I pray Informe me at Large the whole proceeds at Cort both of my Unckle and owne Case but I must for beare the Bearer Staying and Remaine yor Ever Loveing Kinsman
my Beest Respects to my Unckle
my good Cozen yor secon &c

to mr Elisha Hutchinson

mrchent in Boston

these present

per mr John Williams

[29]

Newport on Rhoad Island Decemr 3: 1667

Respected Freind mr William Pate

Sr yors of 6th May and 6 Sepr last past are Come to hand by yor in may I understand yo have Layden two parcells of goods on Board the Royall Exchange the Invoice of which is Come to hand but not any yeet Recd for the goods on Board the Shipp Ladys ⁽⁸⁸⁾ whoe is Saffly arived as I am inford (at Boston) and that Capt pearse ⁽⁸⁹⁾ hath meet with Sume disaster by

⁸⁸Ship Lady, Capt. William Roberts. See letter of January 10, 1667.

⁸⁹Capt. John Pearse. See letter on manuscript page 35.

which is Incapable of performing his Voyadge this winter: but I hoope Early in the Spring of the year he may be with us:

Sr I Returne yo harty thanks for the many Favores Receved from yo and in Speatiall for your given me Sume Credite on accot as per yors both appear* which Sr assure yor Selfe shall Suddainly god permitting be Remitted unto yor Self: with Sume quantatyes of Sugr more which I hoope I may yearly Rendr unto yor Self if it please the Lord to Continue pease: which through his mercy wee now againe Injoy his name for Ever be prased:

Sr with due Respects presented unto yor Self I take leave and Remaine Sr yor assured Freind & humble Sarvent
To mr Wm Pate

at the princes armes

in Marke Lane

London

per Via Barbados ⁽⁹⁰⁾

{In Margin}

*though the goods are not Recd

44

Newport on Rhoad Island the 9th Decemr 1667

Respected Freind

Sr the occation of these /Lines/ are to Signifey that here ariveing the shipp desiere mr Dan Burr the master & others that cam in her informed me tht yor Sonn mr John Crow was by the act divine Providence of the most hei taken out of this world of Continuall /care/ & truble I hoope to his Everlasting Comfort: Sr yor Sonn was pleased in the yeare 1663 to leave his Buisnes in the Island Barbados with my Self and for him I did acte to the uttermost of my abilletyes in takeing Such care and trouells in his Biusnes that by Law I had Receved Soe Fare tht Judgmt was Recoverd (& Severall Executions Leaved) almost for his bad debts and in the yeare 1664 I delivered him in my accots

⁹⁰In the winter months a letter sent from Newport to London via Barbados might reach its destination quicker than if sent direct. Indeed in the coal famine of 1903 steamers going from London via Azores and Bermuda to Providence would take a shorter time than one going directly.

the which I question not but yo will find amongst his writings which account was Newer objected against by him dureing my abroadm in the Island: but Since my Coming from thence my Attorney haveing often demanded the Ballence /he/ Seemed to pretend Sume objection against my accots yet never would come Fairly to accot nor Reffere it to Indifferent men though often promised the It: a very Evill Requittall /for Such/ good offices of Loveing Sarvice as I it is well knowne have done for him but I shall be spareing in things of tht nature: Sr it being as it is tht the Ballence of my accot not being paid nor knowing how Providence may ordr things with yo: I have for my owne Secuerty attached Sume of his Estate on Board of the afore Said shipp tht Soe the matter might come to a just an [d] Faire tryall & have Studied Sevilletty in the preceution thereof: Sr yo may consider of the matter & my desiére is that Sume parson may apeare to plead yor Cause which is all from him that desiérs nothing but his Just due and that Justice may take place which is the Real desiérs of him that is/ Studious for pease & love in any office of Love

I have herewith Sent yo his accots wth what hath dd [delivered] and Recd Since I gave my accots first to him.

45

[30]

Newport Decr the 9 1667

Respected Freind mr Daniell Burr Sr there haveing beene Sume accots depending Betwixt mr John Crow ⁽⁹¹⁾ deseas and my Self: which accots through his Remisnes not being soe Fully perfected as it was my Earnest desire they should and might have benn but for Reason afore Sd accots and tht I would manifest my Earnest desires of Loveing & freindly Complience of the matter & that Right might take it [s] place: doe Earnestly desiére & give my full authority unto yor Self that if yo find mr Crow or the party or partys therein Concerned: Corresponding with my desiérs of pease & for avoyding of Futur truble &

⁹¹John Crow, Junior, of Hartford, was a trader associated in business with his brother-in-law Giles Hamlin of Middletown, who is mentioned later in these letters. Crow died at sea in 1667. Cf. Hinman's "Puritan Settlers."

charge: (/but/ which if/it/must be /both/) I am Resolved not
to Spare knowing my Cause Soe Just) thm that are concerned
yo comply Soe tht my Just due may be paid me Either her [e]
or in barbados Eithr of which shall give me Content and in
doe [ing] of which this shall be yor Sofitient warrant from him
that is Sr yor Evér obliged Freind & Sarvent

I pray per first Inform me
how the matter Stands that

I may if occation Requiery Send &

if you Come to Composition in the matter then please to ordr mr
Jno Ward ⁽⁹²⁾ to dd [deliver] what is attached and his bond
shall be voyd & of noe Effect to yor Sarvt

46

Newport Decemr 11 : 1667

Capt Jno Pynchon ⁽⁹³⁾ Sr yors of the 19 Augst last past I Recd
octor the 10: in which yo advice of Lettrs Sent to my Self
which have miscarried for I have Recd not in yors yo allso
desiere the Ballence of yor accots but in myne of 25 Novr 1665
per mr Deasey I Sent you an accots and withall informed that
yor debter Capt John Godferry ⁽⁹⁴⁾ had made his Esscape of
the Island to both our Looses but question whether you Ever
Receved it have now Sent yo a Coopey with yor accots by which
yo will Fully understand how things are which is all at present
from Sr yor humble Sarvt

To Capt Jno pynchon
these present
per mr Dan Burr

⁹²Probably John Ward of Middletown, Conn. Cf. Savage.

⁹³Capt. John Pynchon, a member of Andros' Council and a prominent merchant of Springfield, Mass. His account book is still extant, and is in the City Library at Springfield. Cf. Savage.

⁹⁴Captain John Godfrey is mentioned later in these letters. He eventually settled in Newport. In 1690 he commanded one of the vessels that drove the French privateersman, Picard, from Block Island, but ten years later he was captured by the French. Cf. Austin.

Hon^{ble} Sir

Newport on Rhode Island Augth 12. 1839

Having used my utmost aid and labour for
the apprehending one James Gillam some time
belonging unto Capt Kid just now received ad
vice from Block Island by postery worded on pur
pose that said Gillam coming from some
part of Long I. land in a small boat, with one
Block Island man meeting in the sound with
a Dutch sloop being berthed the master of
sloop came on board, the said boat and informed
Gillam that there was warrants out for to bring
him and that Capt Edmington was sent on pur
pose to Block Island for that end, coming unto
Block Island they went both on shore but said
Gillam left the man going into his house
and said Gillam would back againe unto the
coast and wait on board the boat, which he
ran away with; it is supposed that he came over
by to Capt Pinnet to corroborate where its report
to the Court now and yesterday ~~was~~ done about
point as it is supposed, and so may not as yet be
gotten beyond Fisher Island, being alone when ran
away, there was in the boat a chest six pound
in money clothes wheat and some tobacco, being
so well stored it is like may have increased the con
pany should I please to extend forth your authori
ty with diligent search for the apprehending of
him it will be of great service to his majesty and
a favour to the Earle, I please to give your at
testation for the speedy conveyance the enclosed
to which will greatly oblige you most humbly Serv^t

— Peter Sanford

I have now and then a
small number of copies of your
copy of the same and will
be sure to send you one when
I have time to attend upon it

[31]

Newport Decemr 13: 1667

Loveing Brothr yors per mr D. Burr I Receved and haveing tht advice from yor Self of Crow not paying the Ballence of his accots have Sieased Some of his goods on Board the Robert and desiere tht you will Send me his noats of[f] of the for the paymt of the Sugr to Jno Dotty & paine & Greynes allso please to gitt tho Butchers oath that I paid him the of sugr and tht it was due from the Sd Crow for the makeing of his cloth allso oath for soe much paid him & if he Cannot find the Noats then gitt Greynes that I pd him 215li of Sugr by Crows ordr yo will allso find Jacob Recedit for Some things dd [delivered] I pray by first opertunity Send me the paprs with the Evidences I have here inclosed Sent an accot of panter Greynes in which he charges me debter by a Noate accepted which if yo Cannot find in the fyle then desiere him to looke for it: Good Brother I pray Remitt what possible yo Cann for London unto mr Wm Pate from whome I have Receved advice that he hath Shiped what he had of myne in his hands & allsoe hath given me Credit for a Considerable Sume of mony & I pray let not my Credit Suffer upon the accot: allsoe I would Desiere tht yo would Send me to the Value of 700 x 800: powns Sugr to Boston to cleare wht I owe for/ accots of/ Bartho Stretton: if mr Reapes Ketch arives and Returnes this winter againe yo [may] Expect by here Sume Putions and Sume quantety of pease which if possible could have gotten in would now have Sent per Beere: I pray Send per this vessell a tunn of good Rume in Sofitient Casque: this with my Love unto yor Self presented I take leave & Remaine yor very Loveing Brother

I pray give Speedye conveyance to the inclosed lettrs & allso give at me or two of advice unto him when yo shall Send him Sugr on my accot not Remembring tht inform lettrs I gave yo any advice therof yo may now understand the lord hath benne

please to take our Brother Restcume ⁽⁹⁵⁾ out of this troublesome world I question not but to his Everlasting well being value

To mr Sanford mrchant
in Barbados these present
per Jno Beere

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[32]

Newport Decemr 22th 1667

Respected Cozen: mr Elisha Hutchinson

Sr after my Beest Respects premised unto yor Self & my good Cozen yor Second: these are [to] Request that Favore tht you will please to Send me by this bear [er] a pare of Brase Scayles of a midle Size with asett of waights to it: and what it amounts unto please to charge to accot of Sr Ever Loveing kinsman to Com

I present my due Respects unto my Unkle: Coz Eliak Brothor Turner & wife &c:

Sr if John Grafton should arive & should have any goods on Board for me to be dd [delivered] heare please to take care thereof if any Rume I would desiere it may be Laden on Board Soum vessell Bound for these parts: & if possible before it be Landed: but I Beeg pardon for my Bouldness & am yors to Command

before yo Receve any thing if any thing should be please to mind what he is ingaged to by Bill of Lading &c
to mr Elisha Hutchinson mrchent these present in

Boston per tho Jenings

[In margin]

please to Send me my accots fr the Books by this bearer

49

Newport Janry 4 : 1667

Ever Honrd Uncle

Sr from my Cozen Elisha I have beene informed of the proceeds of the Cort which In my Weake understanding doe cleary decl noe man to be sertain neither of live nor Estate Soe

⁹⁵The inventory of Restcome Sanford's estate was dated Sept. 24, 1667.

long as Such a custome is that tollerated that those tht have liberty in thm Selves to Sweare & forswear as occation doth requiere: may doe it: for I question it n[ot] in the least but if that Strict Examination was put in Execution by the Sivell power: it would Cause a sudaine Stoope to theare foreward Sweareing: for I am Informed that oat[h] is given in Now that I owned the Estate of 3200 of Sugr to be in my hands Since the date of that accott given in: yeet in the first proceeds marshall Swears tht I owned tht I hade Received from Bartho Stretton in bills & Sugr to the value of 32000 li of Sugr which was the produce of horses tht Came in Ketch Martha: & allso Swears tht he See me Receve Sugr on tht accot: (which oath of his was tht the Jury cheafly acted by:) and this was in the yeare 1663 Now Sr in answer to it I doe in the presence of the most hei declare tht I have given a Just & true accot of what I Received into my hands from Stretton on tht accot and how I have disbursed my owne Sugr on theare accountps: when I had noe other Secuerty but bills wch to this Day is not paid: and what Sugr I Recd per Stretton as then Sole agent haveing all Committed into his hands must be accountpable to Gibbon: but What I have paid by Stretton on ordr & for Saveing the forfeiture of the Charter party must beare my Self: which is a thing Soe unjust that the very heathen would abominate Such actions but

[33]

Sertaine theare is a willfull blending of the under standing: Sr and as for Brigenden his oath: he declares tht Stretton tould him theare was Such an Estate in my hands which if Stretton did he declar'd tht which was False For In Short I will decare the whole truth unto yo: what I Recd on an accot of K [etch] Martha have given accot of and as for the goods & horses that was Carried in Shipe Unity the first Voyadge I Never Received any thing for I was not on the Island Barbados when she arived but came in 4 days after: and then Gibbon being himself thear wholly desposed & Received for ought I know the whole produce of that Cargoe (though brigenden Swears I tooke Com for it) and for the last Voyadge of the ship Unity I

meddled not at all with anything tht Came in the ship for to dispose theareof But Stretton did it wholly and at his departure left in my hands in Bills /& noats/ to the value of 18086 pownds of Sugr but to this day as to my knowledg theare is not 3000 of it Recd. Sr I have now given yo a Just & true accot of what came into my hands of that Estate: thought Gibbon could have that Impudence as to declare to the Cort tht I had 8000li of his Estate in my /hands but/ I think Realy tht he was Nevrr worth half soe much in this world: but what he & his forswere Roags ondly seak is my Estate: to Re there miserable Carcasses: and they are Sufferred to Soe to doe. otherwise I should thing theare would be a through searching into the matter & accot produce to make apeare how I came to have Such an Estate of his in my hands, but I desiere to Submit to what it shall please the lord to Suffer to be done: and doe Sr Solemly declare that the greatest of my truble hath & is Still the bringing of yor Self in truble: Sr I must take my leave the Vessell being Just Redy to Sayle & Remaine Sr yor Ever most obliged humble Sarvent & Kinsman

To Capt Edward Hutchinson these
present in Boston per Jno peadle

50

Janry 6 : 1667

Respected Cozen Sr since my last we have benn informed tht John Grafton is arived: which if Soe: then my Earnest Request unto yor Self is tht if he hath any muscovad Sugr or Cotton wooll on Board for me that yo will Receve & make Sayle thereof and what produced pay unto m^r Cushen ⁽⁹⁶⁾: and if he hath any othr goods for me please to Send it up p m^r Smiths ⁽⁹⁷⁾ sloope or any other Vessell th Bound hether: ondly please to agree Sertain what to pay per tunn in Cuntry pay but ingage noe mony at all as allsoe Send what is Remaining of the goods tht Com in the Lady Except yo please to have Sume of it: the Remainr please to Send & I pray make inquiry for my lettr:

⁹⁶Mr. Jeremiah Cushing of Boston, mariner. Cf. Cushing Genealogy.

⁹⁷Richard Smith of Cocumscussoc, mentioned previously.

for I am Confident tht theare is one in which the Invoice is in:
and I pray inform wheathr goods are Risen in England since
the Fire ⁽⁹⁸⁾ for I am at great loose for want of invoice: and if
yo could procuer me an Invoice of wtt nayles /of all sorts/ cost
this yeare in England I shall take it as a great Favore: Suppose
Brotr turner may doe it, as allsoe what haberdashere wares
Cost in England. Deare Cozen what to say as to the proceeds of
the last Cort I know not: but to me it is the most Unjustest
thing in the world tht an accot should be declard Falce when such
Evidence is produced: or tht a man should be ordered to pay for
an Estate of debts which have never Received any part of & I
Realy thinke will never be Received — but I have not Ellce Save
due Respects to yor Self with my deare Cozen & unto my most
Honrd Uncle I take leave & Remain

Yor Ever Loveing Kinsman

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[34]

Janry 10 : 1667

Respected Freind Mr William Pate

Sr my last unto yor self was of the 3 decemr by way of
Barbados: in which I gave yo advice of the arivall of Lady
William Roberts Comandr and now that the pacetts [packets]
are Received / according to bill of lading / but for want of the
Invoice I am very much Stratened not knowing weathr I have
Received what is therein mentioned & am Furder likly to Receve
damage for want theareof by Reason /people/ will not by but by
Invoice: Soe tht I am Forced to gitt thm Rebated out: I am
very Fearfull yor lettr in which yor Invoice is in hath Some
wayes miscarried: Sr I have given ordr unto mr Wm Sanford
to Remitt with what Speed he Cann Suger unto yor self for my
accot ⁽⁹⁹⁾ the wch if yo Receve and yo be paid the Ballence due:
then if you please to Send in Bone lace to the Value of Five
pownds & in taffetty & other Silk to the Value of 10 l as allsoe

⁹⁸The Great Fire of London occurred in 1666.

⁹⁹Peleg Sanford in Newport bought goods of William Pate in London,
and paid Pate by sugar shipped by William Sanford from Barbados to
London, Peleg Sanford shipping horses and provisions to Barbados to be
credited against the sugar shipped to London.

Sume good Silke Buttons for Brest and Coate with Sume Stitching & Soeing Silke: ferrett Ribon and Silke fallune to the value in these Sorts, to Five pownds and if any thing more should Come into yor hands please to Send it in Nayles Carseys green say yard wide Cottens duffles and Stript blan [kets] with one doz or two of good Ivery hafted knives in pare[s] with pen knife & bodkins & let sume of thm be womans knives /6 doz of sisors/ Soe Comitting yo to the protection of the most he [high] I take leave & Remaine yor assured Freind & Sarvent
(P. S)

I pray if yo Send any goods lett them be good goods & not Refuge and please to sent me a good hatt Case with two very good Castors ⁽¹⁰⁰⁾ in it for my owne Ware let them be Fashionable: & one Gray the othr Blake they must not be very Beeg in the head

Sr please to inclose yor lett'r undr Covert to mr Elisha Hutchinson mrchant in Boston

To mr William pate at the princes
arms in marke Lane in London
per via Boston

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[35]

Mr William Pate the goods you Laded on Board the John Pearse Comandr I have Received, wth Invoice of what was in the Lady but find my Self Extreemly abused in the prices & alsoe by the Badnes of the goods I would be so Charitable as to Judge you Never see the Bayle of woolling Cloths Elce would not have Sent me such Refuge goods & Such Rates & when it was for Redy money & Soe long in yor hands: for to be over 25ct pct if the goods had Beene good: Sr when I opened my Bayles I found the penistones to be in Severall Remnants & sewed together the very many of the peeces in the like Condition & of Severall Breaths in one pecee, the Duffles are soe meane Exspectially one of the peeces that I Cannot dispose of it at the price you have vallued it at &

¹⁰⁰A castor was a beaver hat, from the Latin word castor meaning beaver. Sanford wanted a fashionable hat for his own use.

Beest but for 20s more thn it is vallued by yor self: yo are alsoe pleased to Charge 26s for /a/ Saddle & furniture but there was not any furniture to it more thn a meane Snafle Bitt & I Cann purchase a fare better in the Cuntry with all furniture fare Cheaper & have had my self a fare Better for 12s from England the pistoulls & holsters are vallued at 14s more then such Sort of pistols are usually /Sould/ for in London & here in this place are to be Sould as good as yo Sent for 26s a paire with houlsters & for any ordenary

Cuntry pay Sr I did advice that I might have good goods Sent me, but I find it not mended, onldy the prices as hie as if the Beest had beene purchased: I alsoe did desiere a good sadle & furniture with a Case of good pistols for my own use: but by you I am dealt with as by my other goods Sent though meane yeet Extremlly over vallued: Sr I find the prises of yor Nayles to be as if I had bought them on long Credдите yeet finding the ware to prove good leave tht as present, Sr finding my goods to be bought of yor self & one [blank] Desiere yo to Consider of the Exstreme Rates yo have vallued Remnants & defective goods at: for I onldy desiere my Just due & noe otherwise which I hoope you will not deprive me of by the over vallueing & Setting yor owne preses on yor owne defective goods: Sr I shall for present forbear: hoopeing to heare from, by first opertunity & Soe I Reest

Sr yor Loveing freind

53

Decemr : 22th : : 1668

Mr Wm pate Sr yors p Capt Scarlett ⁽¹⁰¹⁾ with the hatt Case & the two Casters I have Received Sr I have herewith Sent yo a Coopey of a lettr Sent unto yo per Capt pearse desiering yo to Considere thereof & not to forgitt the Goulden Rule but doe as yo would be done unto: Sr if I thought any thing Justly due unto yor selfe: I would Returne yo Sume of yor goods, againe to pay it for at present I have much of it by me & for duffles they are Soe meane Exspetially one pece tht I question wheathr

¹⁰¹Capt. Samuel Scarlett. He was killed by an explosion in Boston harbor, May 4, 1675. Cf. Savage.

shall gitt what yo have priced it at Sr these things are Contrary to Exspectation & I had thought my advice for the disbursmt of my owne mony Expecially should have bene attended; which if it had should not have had the occation of Complaint as Now I have: Sr I should not have Complained for a small matter, but my lose & wrong done being soe great Forces me to acquaint yo thereof hoopeing yo will on all accotts doe that which is Just, tht soe we may Continue Correspondency but if not shall otherwayes aply my selfe: & soe I Reest yor Loveing freind

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[36]

Janry 13th: 1667

Respected Cozen Sr yors per tho Jenings I Recd with the Bad tidings of the loose of John Grafton his Ketch: but as yeet am not Informed how the Fire Came: Neither what Reason he Cann give for his goeing to Salome: I pray make inquiries about it: I pray make Sayle of the hhds of Suger & dd [deliver] the mony mr Cushin & informe him of my Loose by Grafton: which per my last I desiered yo to make Sayle of & pay unto him: I pray intreat his patience, & hoope to give Sattisfaction to Content: Loveing Cozen I pray Settle the accot with the owners of the Ketch Cattent for I doe Judge Sumething Considerble yeet due unto me: for as yeet I Never Receved any accot of what she hath Earned: but I question not but mr Peter Oliver will give yo a pertculer accot if he hath it if otherwise let talboy be Called unto accot: for in the yeare 1665 in July : I pd mr peter oliver 50s in money which the Ketch Brought me in debt: & in Sepr 65: I pd unto Frances C . . . 10 li 5s 3d in mony which was in Full for my part of the Wages tht Voyadge: But what what part of profit was tht voy [age] I Nevrr yeet had an accot of: and in the yeare 5/6 in march I desbursed on Ketch for wages & for Fitting of the Ketch out, the Sume of 20 l Soe tht I then over paid more then my part the Sume of 20 li 17s:6d as /will/ more plainly apeare by the accountps In the hands of mr petter oliver but my part of the Wages tht Voyadge /was/ 20 li 17s 4d: one third mony and I paid but in Cash 22s 9d Soe tht of my part of the money is Remaining 49s

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7d which according to custom I am willing should be abatted out of what I have over paid wheather it be 5s on the pownd or more to make it Equall in speatia to mony Soe tht I Judge theare will be Still about 71 due unto my Self from the ownrs provition pay and as yeet I never Received any thing more on the acct of the Nevise voyadge but 2 hhds of Sugr here from mr talboy the Remandr of the Cargoe which was 3 Butts 2 punches & 12 hhds was Sent to mr petter oliver per Robt Lemon: but Stephen talboy In his to my Self is very much mistaken: for he informs me tht I Recd 3 hhds of Sugr but he is very much deceived for I Received but two & 12 hhds was Carred to Boston though he declares but 11 hhds Soe tht theare is the mistake he aprehend tht I Received 3 : theare could then be but 11 Sent to Bost [on] but haveing but 2 hhds 12 was Sent to mr Oliver: thear was allsoe tht Voyadge a Considerable quantety of Juncke which would have paided a Considerable Matter heare: as allsoe debts left in Menice per talboy: & the particuler waight of the Sugr Lemon dd [delivered] mr oliver: Soe tht I Judge monys Due unto me on tht Voyadge allsoe: theare is allsoe the acct of her last Voyadg to Barbados heare inclosed by which yo will understand what her freight was besid the one half of 26 horses & mares: I pray Cozen indever to Settle the acct and what is Coming pray pay to mr Cushin as for yor Self & Sume other Freinds I must Earnestly begg yor patience by the Next opertunity please to write 2 or 3 lines unto Capt marrise ⁽¹⁰²⁾ that yo doe admire tht the pay is not yeet Come to yor hands for the 2 pips of wine: which hapely will be sume meanes for him to prese to other partys to paymt in close wt yo write to marrise unto me let it be Sharpe: there is Sumething Charged by yor Self as pd to talboy on acct

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of Ketch Content I have heare with Sent yo a Coopey of talboy Receit wt the List of debts in monne on acct of the owners: as allsoe Lemon Bill of Layding which I pray keepe privat: untill

¹⁰²Capt. Richard Morris of Portsmouth, a skilled gunsmith and soldier. Cf. Austin.

yo understand how accots will be given of the Sugr for talboy informes me they will not owne what thew have. Receved which to me seems very Strange: I desier tht there may be an Essue of the matter: which at present is all the truble at present from yor Ever Loveing kinsman.

Cozen I pray Seale & delivr the inclosed to mr talboy: & Speake with him about his mistake for by his to me a Coopey whereof I have here sent: yo will plainly understand it I pray give Speedy Conveyance to the inclosed for England & Barbados yors

To mr Elisha Hutchinson mrchant in Boston
per mr John Ward

55

Janry 13th 1667

mr Stephen tolboye

yors of the Second Current I Receved in which yo desieme me to be assistant unto yo in Relation unto Sume proceeds at yor last being here: & Indeed I must Needs infer you have very much forgotten yor Self as to say tht I Receved 3 hogshe (I suppose yo meane) when I Nev'r Receved but two as I Cann make appeare but as to what was shipt on board on Lemon (though none will as yo Say owne the Receit of it, yeet that the thing tht is Just may take place: be assur'd tht I Cann & will prove what was on Board Lemon ⁽¹⁰⁸⁾ if yo will but git the ownrs to gether: & in ord'r ther unto have given my Cozen Elisha Hutchinson advice Fully of the matter: which is all at present from yor Loveing Freind

To mr Stephen talboy
marrinr these present in Boston
per Inclose of mr Elisha Hutchinson

56

Janry 13 : 1667

Loveing Brothr yors of the 25th Novr is Come to hand with the Bad tidings of the of John Grafton Ketch by Fire wth all the

¹⁰⁸Capt. Robert Lemon of Salem. Cf. Savage.

goods on Board: but how the fire Come not yeet Informed: I pray Brother be mindfull of me in these times of my great Loses & trubles tht It hath pleased the lord to Vissett me withal: I pray Send me to boston if possibly yo Cann to the value of 6000 li of Sugr: to pay tht debt tht I am Ingaged for on Brothr Strettons accot: & be mindfull to Send Sugr unto Wm Pate as Fast as yo Cann: Rume at present is not to be had upon on this Island thearfore pray be mindfull by first that Comes heather: to Send what I formerly sent fore: I have heare inclosed Sent yo osborne accots made up with one mr Logan: which is all at present from yor Loveing Brothr

per Inclose to Boston

per Elisha Hutchinson

57

[38]

Newport Febr/u/ary the 3: 1667-8

Respected freinds Mr Wm Ingraham ⁽¹⁰⁴⁾ & mr thomas pecke ⁽¹⁰⁵⁾ yor by the Native as allsoe yors per mr Brenley of the 27 Janry I have Receved and by both do take nottes of your Compliance with unto the tearmes I propounded for tht land at the head of Neighbore pecks which /as you both know/ is 40 li in mony these are therfore to acquaint yo both that with what Expedition possible yo shall have yor deeds for the same delivered upon the paymt of the monys: yo are ondy to Consider of Sume thing to present unto my mother to procuer her hand unto the deds: without I very much question the obtaining of it: it being alwayes an usuall Custome in shuch Cases I am of

of good Resons of the Summ : may accomplish the thing or apece of plate of about 20s or 30s price this at present is all from yor Loveing Freind

To mr Wm Ingraham

& tho pecks these present
in Boston

¹⁰⁴According to Savage there were two William Ingrahams in Boston about this period.

¹⁰⁵Thomas Peck of Boston, shipwright, and constable. Cf. Savage.

Respected Cozen

Sr an opertunity presenting unerspected: and the time very short I cannot inlarge: these are to Inform tht I have should [sold] unto Wm Ingraham & thomas pecke the peece of Land tht lyes at the head of tho pecks land: the bounds being to begine at the Corner post of Ingraham land Next unto the Street & Soe to Runne by the Street downe towards the Salt house: untill it Comes Even with tho peckes Southermost lyne: which is to the Beest of my Remembrance $41\frac{1}{2}$ Futt from Ingrah[a]m Eastern post towards the Salt house my desiere is that yo will please to measure it and to Send the Exact Bounds thereof: that Soe the deeds of Sayle may be made & Sent downe Speedely: for my Father ⁽¹⁰⁶⁾ intends to ordr you to Receve the mony of them this with Loveing Respects is all at present from yor Ever Loveing Kinsman

Cozen I pray sent my wine

Cupp from mr Hull ⁽¹⁰⁷⁾

59

Februery the 6 : 1667

Cozen Dyre: Respects premised to you & yors: these are to informe that on the 4 of this Instant John Archer ⁽¹⁰⁸⁾ of Portsmouth/th/ sent unto me about the meddows that lyes by mr tolmans and is very desierous to hier them for Sume time, five yeares at least, but for want of yor ordr could not Say much as to any of it more then my owne part I suppose it will bee best to dispose of it Sume way or other before the Little Fenceing that is Now about it be all destroyed yor speedy answer her unto is desiered and if yo asent unto it soon Send yor ordr, allso: which at present is all from yor Loveing Kinsman

To mr Sam Dyre ^(108a)

att Narragansett

these present

¹⁰⁶Meaning his father-in-law, William Brenton. Cf. letter of May 15, 1668.

¹⁰⁷John Hull, the mint master. See note 42.

¹⁰⁸John Archer of Portsmouth. Cf. Savage.

^{108a}Samuel Dyer had married Anne Hutchinson, daughter of Edward. Cf. Austin.

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Newport February 12 : 1667

Mr Walter Tood ^(108b)

Sr these Sarve to Remind yo of your Ingagement long Since past, as allso of the many promises Since that yo would Send me the three pownd due from Wm Nore who sum times lived with one mr Collins ⁽¹⁰⁹⁾ of yor towne, & indeed Sr I cannot but wonder that you have Soe much forgotten yor promises as that yo Now put me once more to desiery you by the first opertunity to send it unto me which I hoope yo will not faile of which with Respects to yo Selfe is at present all tht nee[d] full from yor friend in any office of love

To mr Walter Tood these present
in Warwick per Antho Low

Newport February 12 : 1667

Mr James Greene ⁽¹¹⁰⁾ Sr these are to desiery yo to send me by the first oppertunity that presents; for this towne the Ballence of yor accountt Either in pease or good indian Corne though by Covenant it is to be in porke which is twenty Shillings and Sixe pence /Soe/ with due Regards to yor Self and Lady presented I take leave & Remaine Sr yor freind & Sarvant

To mr James Greene
these present in Warwicke

Aprell 27 : 1668

Respected Cozen

Sr after due Respects to yor Self my Coz yor second & all the Rest of my Freinds these are to certify that I have indevered

^{108b}Mr. Walter Todd, of Warwick, was one of the syndicate that built the town mill. Cf. Austin.

¹⁰⁹Mr. Elizur Collins of Warwick, who committed suicide, Sept. 29, 1683. Cf. Austin.

¹¹⁰James Greene of Warwick for many years a member of the General Assembly. He was the fourth son of Surgeon John Greene and brother of Deputy-Governor John Greene.

to be informed what yor Land may be worth, but find the Judgmts of men Soe various that I Cannot inform any thing more then what yo alredy know the hiest Esteem as any that I have Converst with about it is 250 pownds Cuntry pay ⁽¹¹¹⁾ : but I Judg it will be fare Better for yor Self to take an Exact Veue of it Rather then to trus to the Judgmts of others: & as for my Self am altogether Ignorant of such matters therefore darst not Inform any as from my understanding: and as for yor tenants I have here inclosed Sent yo a Coopey of there Lease by which yo will fully understand the tearmes they are upon, Sr in yor last yo are pleased to Signify yor desiere of my Unckle as to have the porke Sent downe I Recd for Rents which shall (if after you have informed my unkle that theare is more due unto me for what my unkle Sam: owned me before his death, ⁽¹¹²⁾ & Since what I have paid he Still desire it) be done: I have Received from tho Gould ⁽¹¹³⁾ on yor accot 11 Bush of pease which if yo please to give ordr shall Send unto yo by first oportunity: Sr in yor accot I find yo have omitted givinge of me Credit for the 2 hhds of Sugr which you made use of off L. Burr & Com which Cam in Nath Greenes ⁽¹¹⁴⁾ which by the accot yo gave as followeth viz 1 hhd tht 6 li: 1: 19 & the othr 6:0:19 as also yo are pleased to charge the Casque was my unkle Sam: & not myne /unto my accot/ & yor Self very well knowes tht I had not one peny of my unkle Estate therefore noe Reason for it, Sr I desier yo Consider of it & let the thing that is Just be done which I have never yeet doutd of as from yor Selfe which is all at present from Sr yor Evr Lov & obliged Kinsman.
per mr Henry paine

¹¹¹Country pay i. e. produce at fixed rates. Cf. Weeden, p. 325 ff.

¹¹²Samuel Hutchinson died in 1667, his will was dated April 17 and proved July 16. Cf. Savage.

¹¹³Thomas Gould of Newport. He married the divorced wife of John Coggeshall, and bought of the Indians the island now called Gould Island. In the Dutch War of 1653, Thomas Gould had his fling as a privateersman, and ended in the Boston gaol. Cf. Privateer Ships and Sailors, p. 39 and 42.

¹¹⁴Nathaniel Greene of Boston, mariner, not of the Rhode Island family.

Aprell 27 : 1668

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Respected Freind

Sr yor Curtious Lines of the 4: of this Instant Is Come to hand: & I Cannot but Confese that I have in a great measure presumed upon yor goodnes & patience but the most hey hath beene pleased to lay many Looses of Late upn me in particular in the Burning of John Grafton Ketch in which I had more then would have fully paid all my Just Ingagmts in Boston Sr my Earnest desire is that you will be pleased to have yeet a litle while patience & be assured that I will by the permission of the most hey ordr Sugr to be Sent Speedely to pay you both yor princeple with what is Reason for yor Forbearance & be assured Sr that if it shall Ever lye in my power I will Never be Forgittfull: but shall indend to /Requit/yor/great/Courtesey:, Soe with due Respects unto yor Self I take Leave & Remaine yor greatly obliged freind & Sarvant

To mr Jerem Cushin these

present Boston

per mr paine

May 18th: 1668

Respected Cozen

Sr my last unto yor Self was per mr Henry Paine Since which am Informed of the arivall of Capt Jno Pearse: & a letter Came to my hand in which is his bill of Layd for two Bayles of goods the freight I would desier yo to pay for me & within this 3 weakes I will Send yo down money for it again Sr if Brothr Gards ⁽¹¹⁵⁾ Shipp Comes for the Island I would Ear-

¹¹⁵John Gard was apparently from Biddeford co. Devon, and first settled at Fayal as a merchant (Aspinwall p. 109). On 15 March 1661/2 John Davesse and his wife discharged to him "now living in Boston" a mortgage they held on the land of Roger Garde, the recorder of York, on the South side of the Agamenticus River, in York, Maine (York Deeds vol. I, pt. I, p. 119). He settled in Newport and lived on the South side of Thames St., where Southwick used to have a sporting goods store. His wife Harte was buried at Newport on 16 Sept. 1660 aged 65 years and he on 7 Aug. 1665, aged 61 years. His heir was John Champlin "late of Fayal now of Newport," who on 9 April 1675 sold land in Newport to Peleg Sanford, (Cf. R. I. Land Evidence vol. I, 1648-1696). John

nestly desire you to Send the two Bayles up by her, but if she
Come not then pray Send them by the first opertunity which at
present is all from yor Loveing Ever obliged Kinsman to
Comand

Sr /this is/ an accott of what the two Ferckins of Nayles
Cont & Cost in brig per Invoice

	£	s	d
No P in a ferckine Cost	0	1:	6
21 m of 6d Nayles at 3s 4d	3:	10:	0
in a ferckine Cost	0:	01:	6
No T 43 m of 4d Nayles at 2s	4:	06:	0
	<hr/>		
	7:	19:	0
to 4½ Nayles Cost 20s p M	0:	04:	6

Sr here inclosed have Sent Capt pearse Bill Lading

65

[41]

May 15: 1668

Respected Freinds mr Wm Ingraham & mr tho pecke my last
unto yor Self wast of the 3d of February; Since which have not
Receved any answer Conserving the land we were treating
about, therefore these are to desiere yor possitive Result in the
promises: that soe the opertunity that now presents it Self may
not be wased but if you Resovlfe to have it, then my desire is
that yo will pay unto my Brothr Jno Gard for accot of my
Father mr Brenton 10£ in mony & his Receipt for the Same shall
[be] a sofitient discharge for Soe much Recd in part the
Remainr shall not desire untill the have yor deed of Sayle,
which Ere this yo should have had had I known yor minds in the
matter, this at present is all from yor Loveing Freind to Sarve
To mr Wm Ingraham

& mr tho pecke these present

Champlin, who soon disappears from Newport, was apparently also a
near kinsman of Jeffrey Champlin of Newport and Westerly. On 16
Feb. 1613/4 Elizabeth, daughter of Roger Garde, was baptized at Bidde-
ford in Devon, and on 25 Nov. 1641 she married William Champlin there,
and had a daughter Mary baptized on 29 Sept. 1644. G. A. M.

May 23 : 1668

Loveing Brother yors per mr Bryer & mr Brand is Received but through the Badness of the Casque the two Barrell of Rume tht Came with Brand would make but one Full barrell & about tenn Gall over: the mallaces almost in as bad Condition for Leakadge: & for quallety Such mallaces as I never before Ever See such for had to Say wither it be mallaces or watter: my lose in the Rume by Bryer was allso great by Leakadge: Brothr I have been a great /loser/ by these things therefore desier yor Care for the futer & pray see the Casque be very good & the lickers yo hereafter Send me, as for the mallaces I Canot dispose of at half price & I Judge the man yo Recd it from have dealt very dishonestly by you, I have here inclosed Sent yo mr Rosewell & Com: account: & for ozborne [Osborne] yo may allow him the Ballence of his accott: here inclosed is a bill of Gyles Hamline ⁽¹¹⁶⁾ paymt of [blank] Sugr on accott of John Crow there is alsoe a bill of myne for 1370 li of sugr which is payable unto Gyles Hamline which is alsoe paid on Crowes accott by mr Hamline: & as for the papers I left wth yo of Crowes I desiere you to dd [deliver] thm unto mr Hamline which is all I Judge Save onldy one Bill of Robt which I dd unto mr Crow himself onldy what I Recoverd Judgmt for are in the Severall offices. I pray wh [when] yo dd the paprs take up my Receipts: I pray hasten me Sume in Sugr to Boston, that I may if possibly clere what I stand Ingaged there on Stretton accott I pray also per first opertunity to this place Send me one hhd of good muscovado Sugr I desiere it good a smal Casque of Beest whit: five or Sixe of Rall one tunn of good mallaces & I pray let be in good Casque: by John Beare yo may Exspect Some beef & porke on Both our accott: who will Speedely be redy to Sayle: Soe with my kind Love & my wife unto to yor Self & B Elisha presented I take Leave & Remaine yor Ever Loveing Brother.

¹¹⁶Giles Hamlin of Middletown, Conn., brother-in-law of John Crow, already mentioned. Cf. Savage.

[42]

June 2: 1668:

Loveing Brothr here inclosed you will Receive two Bills of Lading for goods on Board Ketch [blank] Beere Com: on yor accott & yor accott in partnrs [partnership]: at this very Instant is the sad tideings Come of the desolution of the Bridge towne ⁽¹¹⁷⁾ by fire, which as the Report gives is wholly Burnt: but our hoopes are tht it is not Soe: Noe lettr Coming yet to hand: by Capt Brand I sent yo Wm Rosewell & Companys accott & also Gyles Hamlines Bills & discharge I am at this very Instant Called away to plymouth unexpectedly: by Reason of which Cannot Inlarge but doe Remaine yor Ever Loveing Brothr: the goods I writ for in my last per Brand pray send.

June 23 1668

Respected Cozen mr Elisha Hutchinson

Sr yors I Recd & the goods from paine & Returne yo hartly thanks for yor Care therein: Sr I have put on Board of Wm Masson ⁽¹¹⁸⁾ my unckles & yor wooll for the which here inclosed yo will Receive a Receite: of yors tht I Recd from acres in all is 13 Fleces tht 22½s the Remainder is all my uncles that was at B Joh B. Samuells & Rich pearse which Containes 81½ li as for what Sam Legg ⁽¹¹⁹⁾ left with you of Brothr Williams if to be dd unto me then please to Sent it about in Sume good Vessell but not in paine if Bound this way this with due Respects unto yor Self & Cozen presented is all from yor Loveing Kinsman

to mr Elisha Hutchinson mrcht
in Boston present
per mr Walter Clarke ⁽¹²⁰⁾

¹¹⁷Bridgetown, Barbados.

¹¹⁸Maston. Cf. letter June 29.

¹¹⁹Samuel Legg of Boston, mariner, son of John Legg of Marblehead. Cf. Savage.

¹²⁰Walter Clarke, son of Jeremy. He was master of a vessel in 1671, but Governor of the colony in 1676. Cf. Austin. He was a great-nephew of Richard Weston, 1st Earl of Portland, Lord High Treasurer of England, and was a descendant of the ancient and gentle house of Clarke of Ford in Kent. The name Weston was long used as a Christian name in the family. (Cf. N. E. H. G. R. vol. 74, pp. 68-76). G. A. M.

June 26 1668

mr Will Smyton ⁽¹²¹⁾ this day: I Recd Sume lines from yor Self as about the debt yo were to have pd me in aprell last: on accott of Sam Haghorne but yor the purport therein Canot understand, Exsept it be for Longer delays which Indeed Canot assent unto: but according unto yor Last promise made unto me but yesterday* Exspect performance & for the /numbr/ parsons tht shall aprise them I care not whether there be one man or two men by Each of us Chosen which if /can/ not agree then let thm Make choyce of another parson to be aded unto thm & let the determination of the maiore part be what we will oblige to Stand unto: ⁽¹²²⁾ this I promise unto yor consideration & by it declare my Earnest of a peacable Essue: of the matter which if Cannot be obtained /being forced there onto/ must other wayes aply my Self: Soe I Rest yors in Loveing Respects

*: but had Realy yo idented Just complience Groundlese feares would not have obstructed it, I Expect to heare from yo according to yor prommise value

to mr William Smyton these present in portsmouth

June 29th, 1668

[43]

Respected Cozen mr Elisha Hutchinson

Sr my last unto yor Self was intended to have Sent per mr Walter Clarke but Slipeing the opertunity not any other hath presented untill this Bearer, in my last yo will Receve William Maston Receipts for yor & my unkle wooll: & my Request unto yor Self is tht if it may not be prejuditiall unto yor Self (great Store being with yo as I am informed) that yo would please to Send me one pece or half a pece of Fives wide dowlass and what it amounts unto please to pay yor Self out of the goods which is in yor hands of Bro Williams: if it may not [be] pre-

¹²¹William Smiton of Portsmouth. His brother, Patrick Smiton, and later his grandson, Benjamin, lived at Barbados. Cf. Austin.

¹²²This form of settling disputes was called arbitration and was common in the colonies. Cf. Prov. Town Rec. XV:3.

juditiall please to grant my Request I shall acknowledg it as a great Favere, please to inform me by first opertunity if my unkle be Likly to Come to farther truble tht I may have a little time to Settle Buisnes here before I come downe Soe with due Respects unto yor self & my good Cozen & unto unkle & all the Rest of freinds presented I take leave & Remain

Yor Ever Loveing & obliged kinsman

to mr Elisha Hutchinson

mrchant in Boston these

present

per mr Josias Arnold ⁽¹²³⁾

71

July 14th 1668

Respected Kinsman mr Elisha Hutchinson Sr yors of the 9th Currant, per Lt Almy ⁽¹²⁴⁾ is Come to hand and as for the delivery of the sheep tht his [is] in Brother Jno Hands: he possitively denies to doe /it/ haveing as he Saith tould my unkle he would not dd [deliver] the Ewes till about the Latter End of Augst, & pearse is now on the same tone, by Reason of the Lames: & as for the Receit I Informed my Brothr they were in my hands: & tht when the sheep were dd unto Lt Allmy I would dd them unto him: Sr I have according unto yor ordr dd unto Lt Jno Almy 20 Fatt sheep which is more than as yeet I have Receved in of mr Gibbs ⁽¹²⁵⁾ his debt: & when the Remt will be procuered from Morrise I cannot give an accott Sr you could not but long eare this Exspect an answer unto yors so of the 11 June, which if had beene Capable to have done, should not have any truble, but presenting yor desiers unto Fathr, Sume time of Consideration was desiered thereupon, & there answer is they doe not Ritely understand yor

¹²³Capt. Josiah Arnold of Jamestown, ferryman. He was son of Governor Benedict Arnold. Cf. Austin.

¹²⁴Lieut. John Almy of Portsmouth, a captain in King Philip's War. Cf. Austin.

¹²⁵Probably Robert Gibbs, a prominent Boston merchant, son of Sir Henry Gibbs. His grandson, Robert Gibbs, is buried in the North Burial Ground, Providence.

desiere: that is to say whether you doe desiere to have the house in which mr pickerine ⁽¹²⁶⁾ Lives in & the Ground on which the ware house stood & so downe 12 Futt More Southerly then the Southermost part of mr Attwatters ⁽¹²⁷⁾ Gardings & soe over unto the majore Genrall Line: withall the housing with in this Bounds /from the strett/ or whether yo meane 12 Futt Southerly from his Northermost part of his Garding: Sr you may please to Informe me more at Large unto which shall desire answeare & per first Send it unto you. Soe with Respects unto yor Self & yor good wife presented: I take Leave & Remaine

Sr yor Ever Loveing Kinsman

to mr Elisha Hutchinson

mrchant in Boston these

present per Lt Jno Allmy

72

[44]

Newport July 14th 1668

Mr Rich Lord ⁽¹²⁸⁾

Sr yors of this instant /month/ from Boston is Received & according to desiere have here inclosed Sent yo yor accott Current yo are please to Informe of Sume differences tht is Betwixt the accott Reced fro Br[o] thr & tht yo Recived from my Self which if be ought in Reason to be as Corrected whether willfully or Ingnarrantly acted: but yo are desierous I perseve to make it Fare greater then in truth it is (if as yo Informe) yo Say an accott is given of 2 hhds pease 3 Barr Flowr one Barr of Beef & 1 Barr Venison but Seeme not to take Notes the accott of one Barr of Beefe and one of Venison which was decead & good for nothing was given you, But Still as I perseve to Exspect an accott of Brothr Wm of thm, which Indeed was never dd [delivered] into his hands but was Forced to throw thm into the Sea; /that which/ I gave yo accott was of tht was

¹²⁶Pickering.

¹²⁷Joshua Atwater of New Haven, later of Boston, merchant, bought this land and garden in 1660. Cf. Savage and Suffolk Deeds, X:231.

¹²⁸Richard Lord of Hartford, son of Richard of Cambridge and Hartford. Cf. Savage.

unsould was but 2 hhds of pease & 3 Barr of Flowr, which I say I left in Brothr Wm hands for yor accott Sr & as for the Ballence of yor accott Currant July 62: which was 952 li Sugr & for the Staves 496 li of Sugr I gave ordr unto Brothr Sanford in march 56 with Exspedition to Remitt it unto yor Self which I question not But Longe Ere this is done although as yeet I have not Receved the 496 li for the Staves neither have I in any accott charged yo with Comision for the Sailes thereof & as for your other debts that were & for ought as I yeet know are out Standing, I presume you to [be] a parson Soe Rationall as not be Exspect thm to be made good by my Self on Attorney: although yor lines in sume were Intimate unto it. which Indeed I Cannot but [blank] at yor Self haveing been Impleyd in affaires of tht Nature as I have been Informed, if not yor one Exsperience in our particulare affaires with Evince tht the affactore or agent to be bound to good all the debts he makes for his principles or Employers: is a most unjust a Erration thinge

Sr as to the Bread yo are Still pleased to demand a quantety as yo Say through Errare is omitted of in yor accott of Creaditt, but haveing alredy given answr should not at this time have given you any Reply but for semllesy [?] Sake: & for answere please to take as followeth, that what Bread I Receved fro[m] Gyles Hamline which was in Bulcke was Butt 1330 li pownds & 7 hhds: with pease in it: Both which upon Sayle therof made out pownd of Bread & [blank] Bush of pease & for my owne part I am Soe Cleare in the matter that not one pownd hath Beene disposed therof By my ordr or Self But what yo have Credite for, and as for what yo are pleased to Say tht mr Hamline will attest I must question, but how Ever the Indorsmtt on the Bill of Lading will plainly deside the matter

Sr I canot But admiere that an accott of particulares should be clamed affter yor goods Sent to markett & yor accott of Sayles Returned, But howr things where then acted Either by yor self or others I know not But I am Suere have given yo Just & true accot of /what/ I Recd which if be Sattisfatory its well, if not am /noe was trubled therat./ haveing done that I l

Sr from hart I declare tht I desiere to live in peace & Love with all men & would not wilfully give the least offence to any

73

Boston Sept^r 3: 1668, most Noble & Ever most trusty Brothr Sr at this very instant I Recd yor most Loveing & Curtious lines of the 26 Augst from the hands of Gershom Woodell which hath Rapt me unto such a [blank] of Joy, that I am not able at present to Rendr thanks worthy such a great Faver being soe full of matter that it is Even Stifled in its first Conseption Soe tht at present Cann ondy Say your Love hath Exstended it selfe soe largely tht by me shall nevr be forgotten whilst tht I am Sr I am yor Ever Constant Reall & obliged Humble Sarvt

74

July: 20th 1666

[45]

Loveing Brother my last was per John Beare per whom I sent yo Some provition ⁽¹²⁹⁾ on yor particulare accott & in partn [partnership] as will apeare per Bills of Lading Brothr I have latly Recd from mr Rich Lord Some lines by which I am Informed To give him an accott But of one hhds of pease I left with yo for his accott: which I doe is only mentioned in the list of debts but yo know my Coming ofe [off] was Suddaine by Reason of which could not settle things soe Exactly as otherwise I should & would have done, but upon perusall of accott found it omitted did theafore in myne of the 5th March 1665 per Henry Beare advice yo of it & gave yo ord^r to give him Creditt for in these words and for the two hhds of Connygraves I have taken you on my accott one of which yo must allow Rich Lord for in yor Receites there is But one left on his accott where should be two therefore if they be sould give his accott Credite for one if Still by yo thn it is on his accott I pray let him have the proceeds of one Speedey Sent unto him I much wonder yo should Soe much forgitt what I write as to Informe yo had but one left wth yo for his accott I Judge it Beest to

¹²⁹Provisions.

cleare accotts with him, & let Sume others Looke aftr what he
hath there in debts for his Complaints Runn very much against
yo the Just Grounds there of I know not Soe Comitting yo to
god I Reest yor Ever Lo [veing] B

To mr Wm Sanford mrcht

In Barbados these present

per A freind O D. G: this letttr

was sent per Ralph parke

Janry 3th 1668

75

[46]

From Boston Goale Augst 31th 1668

Ever most Curtious:

& greatly Honrd Brothr Captn Jno Cranston ⁽¹³⁰⁾ Sr per Left
John Almy I was Bould [to] present a few lynes unto yor most
Worthy Selfe in way of Request for yor assistance viz: & by
Frances Simson ⁽¹³¹⁾ I receved the Sevarall Evidences athen-
tickly attested by the Govr ⁽¹³²⁾ & yor Honrd Selfe by which I
am Fully (though not alyne from yor good Selfe Recd which
would have bene Fare more Comfortable unto me then the rich-
est of Cordialls) ⁽¹³³⁾ Satisfyed tht yor Care to Gratefy my
Request hath beene very great: Sr the Experimentall knowl-
idges I have ever hd of yor Wisdom Stabillitty & Integrity unto
yor Friends Causes me greatly to Rejoice that I am thought
worthy to be listed (though one of the meanest) in that roole,
for men in prosperity hath made many Freinds, but when once
a little Clouded ovr with adversity Few or none then but for-
sake him as the dew doth the Face of the Earth, at the appear-
ence of the Sunn: Sr though this be a Comon Evill amongst
men in the world, yeet from yor most honr Selfe I find it mani-

¹³⁰John Cranston of Newport, physician, who became Governor in 1678.
Cf. Austin. For a full account of the Cranston family see the N. E. H.
G. R. vol. 79, pp. 57-66, and vol. 79, p. 247.

¹³¹Francis Simson of Salem or Marblehead, a Quaker. He seems to
have moved to Newport, and in 1672 Peleg Sanford was executor of his
estate. Austin p. 139 and Cf. Savage.

¹³²Governor William Brenton.

¹³³Liqueurs were evidently held in high esteem by our colonial fore-
bears.

fested Contrarily, Honrd Brothr as for Newes: here is litle or none /that apoches my cettation/ worth yor attention, the most and Beest is tht Capt Clarke & Capt Scarlett are Safely arived from London & tht at present all is in peace & quietnes but daly many French doe flocke in the land, wch is Cause of great Jeolises in the harts of the people wth will be the Eshew therof: Sr I question not but that it is all Redy with yo how the province of Mayne is/by/this Authority Reasumed againe though Settled by his majte Comitionrs undr his Majtie particulare Govrmt but major Wm Phillips Aposeing this Authority & for Standing to mantaine his majte Authority there Established as afore sd: Is now here in prisson

Sr may I declare my thoughts: Coneticutt Gentlemen these had determind these things: though the first Came in a fare more Fearefullere way to demand the Kings province thn these the Province of mayne: may Stand faneing [fawning] & admiering wth the Event of these things will bee, Sr I have inclosed Sent a Coopy or part of Coopey of a Genr Court ordr the which yo may Judge of as to esteme of the Comitionrs Sr I shall not give you Farther truble at present Save onldy the presentation of my most Humble & unfaned Reall Service Service unto yor most Honr Selfe & Vertious Lady: with all yor pretty LITTLE ones: I take leave hertely wishing yor continued health & Increase of /Reall/ honr & prosperity, In this Luife wth Everlasting Joy Hereafter Soe I & Subscriber my Selfe Sr yor Intierly Affectionate /Reall/ Freind & obliged Sarvt to the utermost of his powr

76

Septr : 3 : 1668 Most Noble & Ever most trusty Brothr: Sr at this very Instant, yor most loveing & Curtious Lynes of the 26th Augst from the hands of Gersham Woodle ⁽¹³⁴⁾ I Recved, which hath Soe Capteved my Sences with unutterable Joye, tht I am not able to Return Thanks worthy such a favre being so full of love tht my very thoughts are Stifled in its first Conception, Soe tht at present Cann only Return yo this accot & Say

¹³⁴Gershom Wodell of Portsmouth was son of William Wodell, one of the original purchasers of Warwick, R. I. Cf. Austin.

yor love hath Exstened it Self Soe largely tht it shall never be
forgotten by him tht is Sr yor evr most humble & deeply
Ingaged Sarvent

77

[47] From Boston Goale Sepr the 16th 1668
Ever Most Honrd

Sr yors by Frances Simson I Recd wth the Inclosed Evi-
dences & Returne you most Humble thanks for yor truble in
procuering the Same, Sr here is not any Newes tht is worth the
Relateing unto yor Honr, I am greatly Rejoyced to understand
of yor with my honr Mother & Brothr & Sisters healths, which
I humbly pray may be Continued :

Sr my wife & Self are in health & Humble presents our duty
to yor Honr, my mothr with Reall Loveing Respects unto our
Brothr & Sistrs I take leave & Remain Sr yor Ever obliged &
Humble dutifull Sonn in Law

To the Honrd William

Brenton Esqur Govenr of
his Maj Conlony of Rhoad Island
& Providence plantations these in
Newport present per mr Stainge

78

Loveing Freind Frances Simson

I am Informed tht Jno Beare is arived, if I have any thinge
Come by him my Request to yo is tht yo will doe me the favore
as to Receve it & put it into my Seller & Keepe the Key there of
yor Selfe & pray Sume time looke after it tht it doth not leeke
out, I pray gett me twenty Bush of Salt of Henry Bull ⁽¹³⁵⁾
& pray have a Care of the Boye & Every thinge els tht Belongs
unto me & for your Care shall Indeaver yor Sattisfaction &
Reest

yor very Loveing freind

¹³⁵Henry Bull of Newport, who became Governor of Rhode Island in
1685. Cf. Austin.

Septr 12th 1668: Loveing Brothr for this Sevrall month (/Sume/ before the fire) have not Received one line from yor Selfe I have have almost by Every Letter desiered tht I might have Some Sugr Sent for Boston to discharge wht I am obliged for Stretton, but nothing Comes which makes me much to admiere, I know not whethr it may be in Vaine to desiere youre to Send to the value of 5000 or 6000 li hethere it is /once more/ my ordr & /Earnest/ desiere yo would doe it as alsoe that yo will Send me in yo accotts by first opertunity: Soe with my love to yor Selfe & Brothr Elisha I take leave & Remaine to mr Wm Sanford mrchant yor Ever Loveing Brothr these /in/ present /in/ Barbados
per mr Jno Wilwall

[48] From Boston Goale Septr 21th: 1668
Ever Honrd Mother

Since my Coming for Boston have omitted writing unto yo which please to Excuse me for, haveing much truble upon/me about Br. Strettons buisnes when & what the Esue thereof will be god only knowes. I have not as yeet Received one peny from Brothr John Sanford nor any other Since yo were at the Island the tenn pownds that was due unto Brothr Restcom (from Brothr John) he hath by his will given it unto yor self as I am Informed, for I nevr see his will.

Honrd Mothr I cannot but inform yo how Contrary to Exspection my uncle Hutchinson bill will hath disposed of his land tht is to say the orchard twenty acres Clapits field & all the other land he hath on that Side uno my Selfe provided tht I pay within one year 50 li in mony unto mr Whelwrights ⁽¹³⁶⁾ Children: the which I have Refused to Exspect of: Soe tht I have not one peny of his Estate; but tht wch is worste my uncle Edward Hutchinson demands all the orchard & most part of all

¹³⁶Peleg Sanford's great-aunt Mary, daughter of Edward Hutchinson of Alford, Lincs., married Rev. John Wheelwright, vicar of Billsby, Lincs. He was silenced by Laud and came to New England. He founded the Wheelwright family of Wells, Maine. G. A. M.

the other Land Saying my Father Sould it to my Uncle Sam: you Know I am altoger Ignarent of it therfore pray please by first opertunity to Inform me how it is that Soe if my Fathr had not Right nor yor Self: unto these lands given me I may sett my Self downe Sattisfyed with the loose, I am not willing to Contend in the law for it (as I am informed I must if Exspect to have it) untill I am advised from yor Self of the mattre Soe with myne & my wifes Humble duty unto yor selfe desiering the lord to Blese and preserve yo: I take Leave & Remaine yor Evr dutifull Sonn.

81

Boston Sept 29: 1668

Respected freind Left John Almy: Sr yo I Receved in wch yo inform tht yo have my Booke & paprs: But Understanding yor more Waighter occations hath prevented yor Coming for Boston: my Earnest Request unto yor Self is that if yor oca-tions do not Call yo for Boston Betwixt this & the 5th of the Next months that then yo will not sayle but by Sume Carefull parson Send them unto me wth Expedition Soe wth due Respects unto yor self & Lady I take leave Carveing yor pardon for this Bouldnes: & Remaine Sr yor affectionat Loveing freind & humble Sarvant

82

[49] Newport in Rhoad Island Decr 21: 1668

Loveing Brother the hhds of Rume per Cob is Receved but proves not soe good as the other Rume tht Came per Beare: thereof Judg it Ronged on board or tht yo were deseved on shore: Brother I have herewith Sent yo a Coopey of Stretton ordr, & a Coopey of my Ingagemt to the attorneys of Gibbon, which I was forsed unto, by Reason of Gibbon gitting out of the Cuntry: Soe that nessesity hath forsed me to by my peace though at deare Rates: I may Comply with my Ingagemt & let there be noe further truble /in it/: the Remaindr of the debts are all tht I have for my accots pd the ownrs of the ship Unity: therefore pray indever to gitt into yor hands: Brothr we are now aloading of the New London, which I hoope will not long

[68]

After this vessell with 16 horses & mares unto yor selfe: with
Some provisions: to the value of 4 tunns I have on Board
in porke Beefe Butter & pease: I desiere by the first opertunity
tht presents for this Island tht yo will send me one tunn mal-
lacces & one tunn of Rume in very good Casque: one bage of
very good Ravell & one Bagg of very good fine Cotten, pray let
it be good otherwise is not heare desierable: by the next shall
furdre enlarge; soe with myne & my wifes love to yor selfe &
Brothr Elisha

I Remaine yor Loveing

I pray send me good mallacces for 3 hhds of the last yo Sent is
soe bad & soe thine tht if it were not ascarce time should not sell
it at any Rate

to mr Wm Sanford mrchent these

In Barbados present

per mr Joye: whome god preserve

83

28th Decemr 1668

Loveing Brother I have Laden on Board the New London
Com Ralph parke ⁽¹³⁷⁾ 10 barr of porke 9 Barrl of Beefe wth
one Barr of Beefe & porke: 3 hhds & 1 punchin of pease & 13½
Bushells of pease in Bulke: & three ferckins of Butter, one mare
one Gelding & two horses: for the which here inclosed goes a
bill of Lading & Invoyce Sr my advice & desiere unto you is
tht yo please to make sayle of the afore sd goods wth what
Exspedition yo Cann for my very Beest advantage & please to
be mindfull of former advice of to Returne me Effects for Bos-
ton, and as for Returning Effects for London I am at present in
Sume Straights findeing my Selfe much abused of my former
Correspondent, therefore desiere yo to give me advice whome
I may make Bould wth on tht accott: in my last I desiered yo to
send me per first opertunity tht presented for these parts one
tunn of mallecces one tunn of Rume in very good Casque & one
bage of fine & one bagg of Ravell Cotten wooll that is very
good I desiere tht you will be very Carefull of the measure of

¹³⁷Ralph Parker of Boston, master mariner and merchant, who re-
moved to New London about 1651. Cf. Savage.

yor hhds of Rume, for I have measured Severall of them & they will not hould Soe much as per Invoice: by Seaven Sume 8 & Sume 9 Gallons which Exstreame loose: with freight & Leakedg quit Eastes up the little advance tht is to be gaine by by that trade: Brothr I pray indever to by the mallaces by the tunn & let what yo Send to me be muscovado mallaces: for the last yo Sent me is soe bad tht if it were not at present Something Scarse: I could not make Sayle of it, I nevr gave more than 700 li per tunn for mallaces I finding Casque though often $3\frac{1}{2}$ per gallon, when I lived on the Island, ⁽¹³⁸⁾ Brothr the Barrell above spoken of which is part porke upwards of $\frac{2}{3}$ & the othr Beefe is Number 20: which I pray make Speedy Sayle of because it is last years meat & I feare will not keepe longe: the Reest is very good meat & Newly kild But pray indever the Speedy sayle of it: Brothr heare is now a shipp of about 120 tunns abuilding ⁽¹³⁹⁾ & if yo please yo may have a part of her Either an $\frac{1}{8}$ or $\frac{1}{16}$ or more if yo please: I have not yeet taken any part of her Neither shall untill I heare from you: wheathr yo will Beare any part or not: I pray please to advice the prices of horses & provitions by all opertunityes how it Beares with yo & if a shipp or Ketch that will Carry about 20 or 25 horses may be hiered to come & to have the one halfe of [torn] yo may ident with then provided yo give but timly notses for [torn] of the watter Casque: for for want of shiping

[50]

both father & my Self have Beene disapointed of Sending Constant s/u/plyes unto you but I hoope it will be better for the futer, haveing now cleared my Selfe of the truble I was in: here inclosed is an ordr from Stretton for the delivery of Hancocks: Root, penfold: & Robt. & partnrs debts unto me or my ordr my desiere unto yor Self that yo dd [deliver] unto Edmond Gibbon or ordr the Ingagemt of Hancock Roots & penfold amounting unto the Sume of 15⁰⁰0 li of Sugr with as full

¹³⁸Barbados.

¹³⁹Ship-building had been carried on at Rhode Island for many years. In 1646 a ship of 150 tons was built at Rhode Island for some New Haven gentleman. Cf. Arnold's *Hist. of R. I.*, p. 142.

powr as yo have yor Self for Receveing of them unto sd Gibbon
or ordr and then take a discharge for the Ingagmt the Copey of
which I have herewith sent Brothr I find due unto mrss whiting
1295 li of Sugr more then is left in the lest of debts which if yo
have not alredy Sent him I pray yo per first fayle not of Sending
it, I am much trubled about it feareing it is not done: Brother
please to send me an accott of wt yo have pd mr Rich Lord &
by whom yo sent it, I am informed tht John Godfrey is againe
Come to the Island if true then hasten what is due to Capt Jno
pinchon home to him is 2270½ out of Godferry debt

I hoope Lt Jno King hath pd yo wt I disbt on his accott the
Gelding I have now sent yo may Recomend unto him or any
freind yo have for he is avery Spesiall good Beast & hath all his
paces ⁽¹⁴⁰⁾ I have keepe him this 2 years for my owne use &
therefor Speak of my owne knowledg he cost me 12 li in mony
my wife presents her kind love unto yo & would Earnestly
desiere yo to send her sune Rosemary ⁽¹⁴¹⁾ & Sune

I pray if holland be Cheape send me what I formerly write
to yo for soe desiering yor prosperity to delivere me out from
the
Brother
To mr Wm Sanford mrchent in Barbados these present per mr
Ralph parker

84

[The next letter is indecipherable]

85

[51]

Janry 2: 1668

Loveing Brothr in myne unto yor self from /Boston/ in
which I sent yo mr Barvden & Company accots & did then Judge
tht the Sugr Capt Wiggett demanded had Been by thm paid but

¹⁴⁰Does this reference to "paces" signify that the pacing qualities of the Narragansett horses were developed and appreciated as early as this?

¹⁴¹Rosmary yields by distillation a light pale essential oil of great fragrance, which is extensively employed in the manufacture of pomatums for the hair. Its leaves are gently stimulant and are used medicinally.

Since my Coming home & haveing perused over Jona tynge accot doe not find that I have Charged any for freight of the Casque Wiggett brought on his accot am. therefore apt to Judge it not paid as he saith, therefore pray send me an ac/cot of what it Justly Comes unto tht I may Charge to his accot & play stoope soe much in yor hands as it is as Concerning what write about Job Bathup I doe know tht he shiped sume sugr for accot of sd tynge but Never gave me a perticular accot of what it amounted unto: but if it amount to his debt yeet there is Suftious debt left in yor hands of able men, I have here enclosed sent you tho powdrells accot as allsoe his accot dd by himselfe unto me of what he owed unto Hardy & Stoughton in which he hath charged 115 pounds of Sugr pd by my Selfe unto mr Burr which was soe much Credite Said Burr gave me Before on tht accot Before I had any accot with powddle & it was for charges of Entring of ackons: therefore pray desiere him to give yo in my accot from the first beginning & let him not /at first/ have the sight of tht accot he hath subscribed unto: I pray a Coopey of the accot he delivers yo: Brothr if yo find that are desierous to settle a trayd ⁽¹⁴²⁾ in these parts: for horses & provisions you may Ingage /me/ for to Carry on a quarter part, or if yo will Joyne yor Selfe in it then to Carry on one halfe Betwixt us if it be to the value of 4 or five hundred pownds a yeare at first, or if any will send Rume or mallaces & Cotton wooll & Sume sugrs I will or yo may ingage yor self in apart to take it ofe at a sertaine price viz Rume at 2s 6d/or 3s/ per Gall. Cotton wooll at 6d per li mallaces at 12 li per tunn & sugr at 20s per hundred to be delivered here on shore /in good condition/and will pay them in horses & provisions as porke Beefe please Buttr all at prices Current, I have not farther at present, but desiering the lord to direct & preserve yo I take leave & am yor Ever Loveing Brothr

¹⁴²A good description of the manner of doing business by partnership in the seventeenth century.

to mr Wm Sanford mrcht in Barbados per mr Ralph parker
papr inclosed is

Bills Lading & Invoyce

Stretton ordr

Coopey of my Ingagmt

powdrells accot Subscribed by himself

my accot of powdnells

Coopey of my ordr dd the Attorneys of E. G.

Capt Cranston presents his Service unto yor selfe

but Resolves not to write unto yo untill he

Receves sum lines from yor Selfes

[The End of the letter book]

86

Sanford

Peleg

In answer to the petition of Capt Edward Hutchinson, & on consideration of his pleas & allegations on the lawe title Suretyes, it is hereby ordered & declared that the said Hutchinson shall & hereby is released from his imprisonment, & that his bond of five hundred pounds for Peleg Sandfords abiding the order of the Court of Asistants doeth & shall stand in force agt the said Hutchinson till the Courts judgmt be sattisfied, or the principall surrendered into the custody of the prison keeper.

General Court Boston

9 Oct 1667

[Mass Rec IV pt 2 p 350]

87

[LETTER OF PELEG SANFORD]

Newport on Rhoad Island Augst 12, 1699

Honble Sr

Haveing used my utmost endeavours for the apprehending one James Gillam Some time belonging unto Capt Kid ⁽¹⁴⁸⁾

¹⁴⁸This is the famous pirate captain, William Kidd. Additional references to Kidd's visit to Narragansett Bay in 1699 will be found in *Privateer Ships and Sailors*, by H. M. Chapin, p. 64 and opp. p. 74, and in *R. I. H. S. Collections* XV, p. 97.

Just now received advice from Block Island by persons comed on purpose that Said Gillam comeing from Some part of long Island in a Small boat, with one block Island man meeting in the Sound with a dutch sloop being becalmed the master of Sd Sloop came on board, the said boat and informed Gillam that there was warrants out for to Seize him and that Capt. Coddington was sent on purpose to Block Island for that end comeing unto Block Island and they went both on shore, but said Gillam left the man going into his house and said Gillam went back againe unto the canoe and went on board the boat which he ran away with; it is supposed that he came directly to Capt Paines to cononocut where its reported he left mony and yesterday seene about point Judeh as its supposed, and so may not as yet be got on beyond Fishers Island, being alone when ran away, there was in the boat a Chest Six pound in mony Clothes wheat and some tobacco, being so well Stored its like may have increased his company honerd Sr please to extend forth your authority wish diligent search for the apprehending of him it will be of great service to his majesty and a favour to the Earle, Sr please to give your assistance for the Spedy convayance the inclosed the which will greatly obleidg yor most humb Sert

PELEG SANFORD

[Written in margin]

Sr I have now accott that a small Boat was seene going Betwene Fishers Island and the maine land about 12 o Clock yesterday

For His Majty Service
To
The honbl John Winthrop
Esqr
Govr of Conecticut
Colony
Present

[Winthrop Papers, vol. 18, p. 24, in
Massachusetts Historical Society Library]

[LETTER OF ELISHA SANFORD, BROTHER OF PELEG]

Barbados March the 10th 1671/2

Sr

Youres: of the 23th Febry per Mr: Giles Hamlin have
 Reced with the Incosed Invoyce and: accot: which Is the
 Copey of those formerly: Sente By my Brother Wm the
 Balls of which as yet have not Reced: But am promised by
 the person obliedged with whome have Beene att law with all:
 that Sume time the Sd month I shall Received the Debt:
 which If he failes In hise promis shall: take out Executtion
 and forse him to a Compliance which Shoulde have hade
 Dunne Longe Beefore this . . . butt: through: his: earnest
 Request: and promis of Compliance have as yett foreboren
 Sr per the nexte opertunnity you may Exspect: the Ball
 of youre accot: which should have beene now: butt the Sudin
 Departture henders: which wth: humble Searvis from Sr
 Youre Humble Sarvant

ELISHA SANFORD
 1671/2

Mr. Elisha Sanford

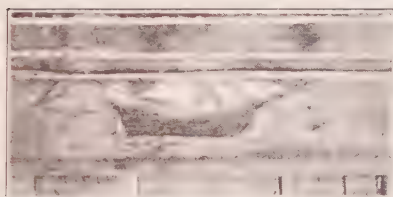
May: 1672

To: Capt Waitstill Winthrop

In New London

per: mr: Giles Hamlin DDD

[Winthrop Papers, vol. 18, p. 23, in
 Massachusetts Historical Society Library]



Drawing of a boat made about 1700 on the chimney girt of the Whipple house, Hamilton (Ipswich Farms), Massachusetts.

Courtesy of Norman M. Isham.

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